

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Third Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. V contains Nos. 11 to 20)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

*Price : Rs. 50.00*

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

*Friday, March 10, 2000/Phalguna 20, 1921 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

*[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]*

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No.221. Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Speaker, a MLA of Bihar is being given one crore rupee . . . *(Interruptions)* A Cabinet Minister is present there. . . *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara) : Sir, it is an issue concerning buying and selling of the Members. . . *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : Not now, you may speak after Question Hour. Please take your seat.

*[English]*

Hon. Members, please take your seats. Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat. What is this ? Please take your seat. This is not good.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you. You can speak after Question Hour. You can raise points after Question Hour. *[English]* Please take your seats. Please understand the procedure. What is this ?

*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, one crore rupee. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mulayam Singhji, do n't you want Question Hour. . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL : Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : In which direction they are taking the democracy ? . . *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you that after the Question Hour, you can raise all these issues, not now. For the last 15 days you have been losing the Question Hour. This is not good.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, there are newspaper reports that legislators are being bought. It is not only an issue concerning Bihar. . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to all the hon. Members not to disturb the Question Hour. I will allow all of you after the Question Hour. You can raise all the issues in the Zero Hour.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Q.No. 221, Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I shall allow you after the Question Hour. Please understand. Shri Mulayam Singh, I shall allow you also after the Question Hour. Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat. What is this ?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to disturb the Question Hour everyday ? Is that your intention ? What is this Shri Kamal Nath ? For the last fourteen days you are not having the Question Hour. You are a senior Member. How can you disturb the Question Hour ?

*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.



## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Advertisements on Doordarshan

\*221. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the recently published UNESCO report, "The Killing Screen", which studies the impact of TV violence on children;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that advertisements for children products like chocolates, biscuits, toffees, health food and baby products are associated with horror and violence;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that children and baby products are kept away from advertisements with crime and horror;

(d) whether there is any agency to monitor the compliance of code for commercial advertisements by Doordarshan and other private and foreign channels; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) Government is aware of the report of UNESCO sponsored study "The Killing Screen—Violence on Television and its Impact on Children". UNESCO had conducted a global study on media violence in 1996 and 1997 and this was followed up in 1998 by a monitoring study of TV programmes in India by Centre for Advocacy and Research under the aegis of UNESCO. The report "The Killing Screen" summarises conclusions of both these studies.

The report concludes that there is a strong co-relation with the accessibility of modern media and the predominant values and orientations. It also concluded that children's aggressive behaviour patterns and perceptions are a mirror of what they experience in their real environment. The report has noted with concern the worldwide adverse impact of violence in TV programmes on children's psyche and personality. The report has recommended that centralized control and censorship are not efficient and do not meet the criteria of democratic societies. It has suggested :

- \* public debate and common ground talks between politicians, producers and teachers;

- \* development of a professional code of conduct and self-discipline for producers;
- \* innovative form of media education to create competent and critical media users.

The study in India indicates that impact of TV/media violence can be manifold. It notes lack of regulations/guidelines for children and the media in India. The study has noted that producers do not avoid violence because such programmes are viewed widely and advertisers even of healthy products or children's products readily sponsor such programmes or make advertisements to benefit from large viewerships.

Regulatory framework for broadcasting in India so far is weak because there is no broadcasting law for setting up regulatory system so far. The TV programmes are not subject to jurisdiction of Film Censor Board also. However, the situation is not totally unregulated. Advertising on Doordarshan is regulated by its Code for Commercial Advertising. The private satellite channels uplinked from India are required to follow the same code under conditions of Government permission. Under the Cable TV Network Rules encrypted satellite channels uplinked from outside India are subject to advertisement code specified under this Act. Rule 7 prohibits advertisements which endanger safety of children or create interest in unhealthy practices. Under section 18 of the Cable TV Networks Act officers designated by the State Governments can take cognizance of violations of advertisement code.

### Smuggling of Drugs and other Goods

\*222. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :  
SHRI P.D. ELANGOVA : :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether drug trafficking, gold smuggling, flesh trade and inflow of counterfeit currency have increased manifold in the country, particularly on the Indo-Nepal border since 1994;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of smugglers and Government officials including Ex-Army/Air Force/Navy personnel arrested in this regard during the last three years and the action taken against them;

(d) whether the Government have seized a large quantity of heroin from various places in the country between October 1999 to February 2000;

(e) if so, the details thereof indicating the date, place and quantity of heroin seized, persons arrested and the action taken against them;

(f) whether Pak link has been revealed in the biggest haul of heroin during the above period; and

(g) if so, the action taken to take up the matter with Pakistan Government and also to check the smuggling of narcotics into the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) There is no evidence to suggest this.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) 1,531 persons including 8 Govt. and 2 bank officials were arrested by the officers of the Customs Department in connection with smuggling of gold, narcotic drugs and other contraband goods during the last three years, i.e., years 1997 to 1999. As per information compiled by NCB, 39,960 persons including 5 Govt. officials were arrested by the various enforcement agencies in connection with drug related cases under the NDPS Act, 1985, during last three years, i.e., years 1997 to 1999. As reported by Delhi Police to NCB, they have arrested one retired Indian Air Force officer and his daughter on 4th February, 2000 in connection with a seizure of Hashish. Appropriate action for launching prosecution and confiscation of seized goods/drugs has been taken against the persons involved under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962 and/or NDPS Act, 1985, in all these cases, after completing investigations and following due processes of law.

(d) 388.565 kgs. of heroin in 66 cases has been seized by the various enforcement agencies in the country between October, 1999 and February, 2000.

(e) The requisite details of these cases are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(f) The biggest seizure of heroin in the period mentioned in (d) above was effected on the intervening night of 21/22.12.99 by the officers of Delhi Zonal Unit of NCB, when they intercepted a truck on National Highway No.8 near Delhi, and recovered 77 packets containing one kg. each totalling 77 kgs. of heroin. The packets bore Pakistani markings indicating that the Heroin was of Pakistan origin. A total of 8 persons (3 Afghans, 2 Pakistani and 3 Indians) were arrested in this connection.

(g) The matter has yet not been taken up with Pakistan Government as the case is still under investigation. All the enforcement agencies entrusted with the task of

Drug Law enforcement are, however, alert and taking measures to detect and prevent smuggling of narcotics into the country. Deterrent penal action, specially that provided under NDPS Act, 1985 is being invariably initiated against all persons found involved in Drug smuggling.

#### Statement

*Statement indicating the details of seizures of Heroin in the country between October 1999 to February 2000*

S. No.	Date of seizure	Place of seizure	Qty. of Heroin seized (in kgs)	No. of persons arrested
1	2	3	4	5
1.	2.10.99	Mumbai	0.800	1
2.	Oct. 99	Srinagar	1.570	6
3.	7.10.99	Mumbai	1.500	1
4.	11.10.99	Madhya Pradesh	1.000	2
5.	11.10.99	Tamil Nadu	9.935	1
6.	14.10.99	Uttar Pradesh	0.500	1
7.	20.10.99	Madhya Pradesh	0.500	1
8.	21.10.99	Tamil Nadu	52.840	4
9.	25.10.99	Trivandrum	0.510	2
10.	30.10.99	Maharashtra	3.210	1
11.	30.10.99	Madhya Pradesh	1.200	1
12.	7.11.99	Delhi	0.866	1
13.	8.11.99	Punjab	0.056	4
14.	10.11.99	Maharashtra	4.750	1
15.	18.11.99	Calcutta	0.400	2
16.	18.11.99	Calcutta	0.340	1
17.	22.11.99	Ahmedabad	4.423	1
18.	28.11.99	Delhi	32.500	2
19.	1.12.99	Madhya Pradesh	0.700	1
20.	1.12.99	Punjab	0.224	18
21.	5.12.99	Manipur	0.900	4
22.	7.12.99	Jodhpur	35.300	2

1	2	3	4	5
23.	8.12.99	Madhya Pradesh	0.420	2
24.	9.12.99	Calcutta	0.220	1
25.	9.12.99	Manipur	0.998	1
26.	13.12.99	Chennai	29.355	7
27.	14.12.99	Maharashtra	5.050	2
28.	21.12.99	Mizoram	0.191	1
29.	21.12.99	Delhi	77.000	8
30.	28.12.99	Rajasthan	3.500	2
31.	29.12.99	Rajasthan	0.320	1
32.	30.12.99	Uttar Pradesh	0.450	1
33.	Dec., 99	Srinagar	1.570	6
34.	2.1.200	Goa	1.065	4
35.	2.1.2000	Mumbai	13.600	1
36.	6.1.2000	Calcutta	1.500	3
37.	8.1.2000	Chandigarh	8.000	3
38.	10.1.2000	Uttar Pradesh	0.155	2
39.	11.1.2000	Delhi	0.866	1
40.	12.1.2000	Bihar	1.800	1
41.	14.1.2000	Mumbai	11.550	3
42.	17.1.2000	Chennai	10.230	3
43.	18.1.2000	Delhi	2.000	2
44.	19.1.2000	Madhya Pradesh	0.500	1
45.	21.1.2000	West Bengal	0.300	1
46.	22.1.2000	Gujarat	0.463	3
47.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.874	1
48.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.993	1
49.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.620	1
50.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.018	1
51.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.286	1
52.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.902	1
53.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.812	1

1	2	3	4	5
54.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.904	1
55.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.895	1
56.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.936	1
57.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.565	1
58.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.975	1
59.	28.1.2000	Delhi	0.931	1
60.	1.2.2000	Delhi	1.000	2
61.	3.2.2000	Mumbai	1.800	4
62.	7.2.2000	Mumbai	0.546	—
63.	9.2.2000	Tamil Nadu	5.095	—
64.	11.2.2000	Trivandrum	0.169	1
65.	18.2.2000	Mumbai	5.617	2
66.	21.2.2000	Chennai	39.500	3
Total			388.565	143

#### Agreement with World Bank for CSRP

\*223. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between the World Bank and Coal India Limited/ Government of India for Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project (CSRP) involving IBRD loan of 530 million dollars;

(b) if so, the details of proposed covenants under the CSRP loan for coal price and distribution, deregulation and encouraging private investments; and

(c) the details of the clauses in the agreement pertaining to Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. ?

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND MINISTER OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGLAM) :  
(a) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed between IBRD and Coal India Ltd. for a loan of 530 million dollars.

(b) There is no covenant on coal price and distribution, de-regulation and for encouraging private investment in the Loan Agreement between IBRD and Coal India Limited.

(c) In the CSRP Loan Agreement between IBRD

and Coal India Limited, the clauses pertaining to Eastern Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited provide, inter-alia, for controlling and improving the debt to total capitalization ratio and debt service coverage ratio of these two companies.

**Outstanding Income-tax against  
Big Business Houses**

\*224. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether crores of rupees in regard to income tax

is outstanding against big business houses in Delhi region for the last ten years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the reasons for not recovering the same by income tax authorities; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for early recovery of outstanding income tax ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d)

Sl. No.	Name	Amount outstanding (Rs. in crores)	Reasons for non-recover	Steps taken for recovery
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Alankar Housing and Construction (P) Ltd.	2.01	The matter is pending with official Liquidator appointed by Delhi High Court.	The matter is subjudice
2.	M/s. Allenbury and Company (P) Ltd.	1.48	The matter has been processed for write off of the demand.	
3.	M/s. Bharat Union Agencies (P) Ltd.	1.93	The matter has been processed for write off of the demand.	
4.	M/s. Continental Construction Ltd.	16.12	Company's financial position is precarious. Over Rs. 134 crores of assessee's own funds are locked up in banks in Iraq and are not repatriable to India due to U.N. sanctions on Iraq.	The tax demand has been fully recovered. Out-standing demand relates to interest u/s. 220 for which quarterly instalment of Rs. 50 lakhs is being paid by the assessee.
5.	M/s. Dalmia Jain Airways Ltd.	1.30	The matter has been processed for write off of the demand.	
6.	M/s. Dharam Singh Ram Singh Motors (P) Ltd.	1.42	The company is under liquidation.	The rent of the company's property has been attached.
7.	M/s. Dior International (P) Ltd.	4.48	The demand has been stayed by the BIFR	In view of BIFR's stay order, recovery cannot be pursued.
8.	M/s. Ganesh Flour Mills	4.73	The company has been taken over by an Act of the Parliament in 1984. The payments are to be received from Commissioner of payments who insists an payment of Rs. 1.1 crore in full and final settlement of the demand.	The balance demand of Rs. 3.63 crores has been processed for write off by the competent authority.

1	2	3	4	5
9.	M/s. General Exports and Credits Ltd.	1.42	The demand is disputed in appellate proceedings.	The demand has been stayed till disposal of appeal.
10.	M/s. Kapri International (P) Ltd.	1.22	The Company is in liquidation.	Rs.1 lakh has been realised through the Official Liquidation.
11.	M/s. Pearl Cycle Industries	1.51	The matter has been processed for write off of the demand.	
12.	M/s. Usha Micro Process Controls Ltd.	1.28	The matter is before BIFR.	Recovery of demand cannot be pursued during the pendency of the matter before the BIFR.
13.	M/s. Usha Studs and Agricultural Farms (P) Ltd.	2.63	The matter is before the Settlement Commission.	Recovery of demand cannot be pursued during the pendency of the matter before the Settlement Commission.
Total		41.53 Crores		

[English]

#### Bank Loan Defaulters

\*225. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue of making public the names of bank loan defaulters has been discussed by the Central Vigilance Commissioner with RBI;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of RBI in this regard;

(c) the difficulties being faced by the banks in making public the names of borrowers who are wilful defaulters; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for disclosure of the names of wilful defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had received a request from the Central Vigilance Commission to arrange to publicize the names of wilful defaulting borrowers of banks and financial institutions (FIs). Under the banking laws in force, disclosure of names of borrowers of banks and financial institutions is not permissible except under the circumstances as provided under various statutes. However, there is no prohibition on disclosure of the names of defaulters against whom suits have been filed. Legal

opinion obtained by the RBI is consistent with well-established canons of world-wide ethics that a bank will not disclose state of banking affairs of its customers. This obligation of secrecy with regard to the banking affairs of the customers is founded on an implied contract, which has been accepted and well-recognized.

(d) RBI publishes as on 31st March every year a list of borrowers (with outstanding aggregating Rs. 1 crore and above) against whom suits have been filed by banks and FIs for recovery of their dues. A list of suit filed accounts as on 31.3.1999 has been placed in the Parliament Library and is also available on RBI website <http://www.rbi.org.in>.

#### Performance of Public Sector Undertakings

\*226. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DEWATHE :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government recently reviewed the performance of Public Sector Undertakings in terms of physical and financial targets set and achieved during the last three years including current year, till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise and PSU-wise;

(c) the details of new strategies formulated to improve the performance of PSUs and the action plan to revamp/restructure the working of PSUs, not operating as expected in tune with global competition; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed in respect of chronically sick PSUs alongwith action plan for 2000-2001, PSU-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) The performance of the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is reviewed on a regular periodicity by the Administrative Ministries. Review of performance is also a part of MOU mechanism. On a yearly basis, Public Enterprises Survey also analyses the performance of PSUs. The results of review of performance vis-a-vis targets under MOU mechanism are contained in the Public Enterprises Survey. These are continuous processes. The Survey is laid on the Table of the House every year and is a published document.

(c) and (d) The Government has taken enterprise specific measures to improve the performance of the units and make them globally competitive. These include enhanced delegation of powers, professionalisation of managements, promotion of joint ventures, modernisation, technology upgradation, capital and organisation restructuring, etc.

In respect of sick companies, again, enterprise specific measures are taken for reversing the trend and revival, on a continuing basis. BIFR formulates appropriate schemes under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 for the PSUs registered with it. The measures include business and financial restructuring, conversion of the enterprise into a joint venture, rationalisation of manpower, technology upgradation, diversification and change of product mix, modernisation of plant and machinery, etc.

[Translation]

#### **Approval to set up Doordarshan Relay Centres**

\*227. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :  
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of places for which approval for setting up of Doordarshan Relay Centres was given during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 alongwith expenditure involved therein, State-wise;

(b) the policy of the Government in regard to the setting up of Relay Centres in the country;

(c) the time by which the said approved Doordarshan Relay Centres are likely to be set up and start functioning;

(d) whether the Government are formulating any special action plan to make Doordarshan telecast available in each part of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) A total of 274 Doordarshan Relay Centres (HPT-68, LPT/VLPT-206) have been approved during April, 1997 to February, 2000 at an approved cost of about Rs.605 crores. A statement showing State-wise details is enclosed.

(b) Expansion of TV service in the country is carried out in a phased manner depending on availability of resources. However the following key factors are taken into account while deciding location for setting up of a transmitter:

1. The existing coverage in the area
2. Extent of resultant coverage from the proposed transmitter
3. Cultural, historical and economic importance of the area
4. Backwardness/remoteness of the area.

Priority is given to Tribal/Hilly and sensitive/border areas for setting up of TV transmitters.

(c) Out of 274 transmitters, 41 projects have already been commissioned and another 29 projects are technically ready. The technically ready projects would be commissioned as soon as requisite staff for operation and maintenance are in position by redeployment, which has been finalized recently and is in the process of implementation. The remaining projects are at various stages of implementation and are likely to be commissioned in phases by the end of 9th Plan.

(d) and (e) Doordarshan's national terrestrial channel provides a coverage to 87.9% of population and 74.8% of area. Its satellite channels, 16 in numbers, provide 100% coverage and are available in all parts of the country through appropriate dish antenna or cable connection. However, with a view to further expand the terrestrial TV service in the hitherto uncovered areas, 312 transmitter projects are presently under implementation in different States/UTs. With the commissioning of these projects and those which are technically ready, Doordarshan coverage in the country will improve significantly.

In addition to the above projects under implementation, a special plan for expansion of Doordarshan services in J&K has been approved by Cabinet involving a outlay of

Rs.218 crores. Under this plan, 13 HPTs, 12 Mobile LPTs and 16 VLPT are being set up besides upgradation of one HPT (Amritsar DD1) and 11 VLPTs.

#### Statement

##### *Doordarshan Transmitter Projects approved during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000*

State	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		Total	
	No. of Transmitter	Capital Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Transmitter	Capital Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Transmitter	Capital Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Transmitter	Capital Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	12	1816.20	2	435.00	2	194.00	16	2445.20
Assam	3	1152.40	1	55.00			4	1207.40
Bihar	3	1113.00	2	684.00	1	83.00	6	1880.00
Delhi							0	0.00
Goa			1	341.00			1	341.00
Gujarat	5	1180.80	1	914.10	1	122.33	7	2217.23
Haryana	5	420.00			1	52.15	6	472.15
Himachal Pradesh	3	196.05	2	460.00			5	656.05
Jammu & Kashmir	2	392.33	4	624.66	84	16077.00	90	17093.99
Karnataka	6	3037.75					8	3037.75
Kerala	8	2276.78					8	2276.78
Maharashtra	24	3849.90	1	76.00	3	200.70	28	4126.60
Manipur			1	59.20			1	59.20
Meghalaya	1	269.30	1	55.00			2	324.30
Mizoram			1	38.50			1	38.50
Madhya Pradesh	19	4804.05			2	178.70	21	4982.75
Nagaland	1	59.20	1	38.50			2	97.70
Orissa	3	1009.70	1	63.00			4	1072.70
Pondicherry	1	1051.50					1	1051.50
Punjab					2	1956.00	2	1956.00
Rajasthan	22	3343.40					22	3343.40
Tamilnadu	10	1637.70	1	96.00			11	1733.70
Tripura	1	520.00					1	520.00
Uttar Pradesh	12	3919.34	3	458.20	4	258.25	19	4635.79
West Bengal	9	4829.57			1	100.00	10	4929.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>36878.97</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4398.16</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>19222.13</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>60499.26</b>

[English]

**States' Share in Taxes**

\*228. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tax collection in a particular State is not taken into consideration while distributing revenues to different States by the Centre;

(b) if so, whether the most populous States are getting larger share irrespective of the amount of tax collection in their States;

(c) if so, the incentives to those States which have adopted family planning programmes and as a result thereof have less rate of growth of population; and

(d) the comparative analysis of tax collection in

States and amount distributed to all States in the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. This is in accordance with the accepted recommendations of the 10th Finance Commission.

(b) Population of a State is one of the several factors taken into account while fixing inter se share of States in the shareable proceeds of income tax and Union excise duties. (vide para 5.47 and 5.48 of the report of the 10th Finance Commission).

(c) 1971 population is taken as the base.

(d) The details of collection during the last three years are as under :-

(In crores of Rupees)

	1996-97 (Actuals)		1997-98 (Actuals)		1998-99 (RE)	
	Collection	Share of States	Collection	Share of States	Collection	Share of States
Income Tax	18234.00	13529.44	26655.00	21116.21	21430.00	14498.03
Excise Duty	45008.00	21578.00	47962.00	22446.00	53200.00	24665.06

Government accounts are not maintained according to State in which the taxes are collected.

State-wise allocation for the last three years is given

in enclosed Statement. These are subject to adjustment based on the certification of net proceeds by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under Article 279 of the Constitution of India.

**Statement**

*Statement showing the releases made to the State Governments during the year 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99*

(In crores of Rupees)

S. No.	State	1996-97				1997-98				1998-99			
		Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total	Basic Excise Duties	Additional Excise Duties	Income Tax	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pd.	1560.38	232.98	1145.35	2938.71	1365.23	258.09	1787.42	3410.74	1524.44	256.47	1227.26	3008.17
2.	Arunachal Pd.	152.90	3.10	23.03	179.03	204.54	3.41	35.88	243.83	240.78	3.41	24.65	268.84
3.	Assam	724.88	73.97	376.71	1175.56	806.27	81.14	587.84	1475.25	864.28	81.43	403.62	1349.33
4.	Bihar	2101.38	236.67	1740.16	4078.21	2074.51	260.81	2715.64	5050.96	2316.11	260.53	1864.59	4441.23
5.	Goa	59.26	6.91	24.38	90.55	61.58	7.66	38.00	110.24	63.38	7.64	26.10	97.12
6.	Gujarat	633.69	178.61	547.24	1359.54	611.96	197.81	854.48	1704.25	728.64	196.61	586.59	1511.84



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7. Haryana	193.90	70.49	167.49	431.88	199.80	78.1	261.41	539.31	222.95	77.60	179.49	480.04	
8. Himachal Pd.	425.77	17.73	95.29	538.79	536.52	19.54	148.63	704.69	607.28	19.51	102.07	728.86	
9. J & K	656.09	25.50	148.55	830.14	839.67	28.01	231.55	1099.23	965.44	28.07	159.04	1152.55	
10. Karnataka	836.20	171.13	722.47	1729.80	860.07	188.97	1127.29	2176.33	961.49	188.38	774.05	1923.92	
11. Kerala	606.91	111.42	524.32	1242.65	624.49	123.30	818.22	1566.01	697.84	122.66	561.80	1382.30	
12. Madhya Pd.	1298.39	215.58	1121.63	2635.60	1337.47	238.66	1750.51	3326.64	1492.93	237.31	1201.89	2932.13	
13. Maharashtra	959.46	358.32	828.14	2145.92	987.99	396.74	1294.07	2678.80	1103.2	394.44	888.15	2385.81	
14. Manipur	187.80	5.87	38.18	231.85	244.86	6.44	59.52	310.82	284.34	6.46	40.88	331.68	
15. Meghalaya	173.62	5.60	38.32	217.54	220.85	6.18	59.74	286.77	253.36	6.16	41.03	300.55	
16. Mizoram	159.24	2.35	20.19	181.78	213.83	2.64	31.45	247.92	255.90	2.59	21.60	280.09	
17. Nagaland	246.16	4.08	24.51	274.75	338.04	4.57	38.20	380.81	406.46	4.49	26.24	437.19	
18. Orissa	858.13	99.66	608.20	1565.99	875.97	109.86	949.13	1934.96	903.13	109.70	651.59	1664.52	
19. Punjab	228.82	101.95	197.58	528.35	235.82	112.49	308.57	656.98	263.11	112.23	211.82	587.16	
20. Rajasthan	869.40	145.18	751.25	1765.63	897.20	161.07	1172.00	2230.27	999.67	159.82	804.78	1964.27	
21. Sikkim	62.99	1.58	17.08	81.65	78.56	1.76	26.58	106.90	89.62	1.74	18.27	109.63	
22. Tamil Nadu	1039.49	228.48	897.53	2165.50	1072.19	254.33	1401.78	2728.30	1195.2	251.51	962.23	2408.98	
23. Tripura	259.10	8.52	51.16	318.78	340.51	9.45	79.81	429.77	392.84	9.38	54.80	457.02	
24. Uttar Pd.	3134.66	434.17	2410.06	5978.89	2873.84	480.05	3760.77	7114.66	3207.54	477.94	2582.24	6267.72	
25. West Bengal	1170.12	239.41	1010.62	2420.15	1205.55	264.5	1577.72	3047.77	1345.44	263.55	1083.15	2692.14	
Total	18598.74	2979.26	*13529.44	35107.44	19150.42	*3295.58	21116.21	43562.21	21385.43	3279.63	*14498.03	39163.09	

\*includes adjustment on the basis of certified figures of C&AG.

[English]

#### FDI

\*229. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to set up a Review Committee to liberalise the foreign direct investment (FDI) regime;

(b) if so, to what extent this Committee will review the existing sectoral policies and sectoral equity caps;

(c) the details of other aspects of liberalising the FDI; and

(d) the time by which the Committee is likely to give its recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Government has constituted a Group of Ministers to review the sectoral policies, sectoral equity caps and decide necessary changes in the existing foreign direct investment (FDI) regime as also for future.

(d) The said review by the above mentioned Group of Ministers is envisaged as a continuous process.

[English]

#### Dumping of Paper by Foreign Countries

\*230. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether over one hundred agro-residue based paper mills in the country have been closed due to increase in excise duty and low price realization apart from lower import duty resulting in avoidable dumping of paper from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details of representations received from the paper industry by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken/proposed thereon to provide much sought relief to the affected industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As per the information available, 177 sick pulp and paper units were registered with the BIFR as on 31.12.1999. It is difficult to attribute excise or customs duties as the reason for closure of the units. The closure of units can generally be attributable to uneconomic size of the units, high cost of raw material, slackness in demand, competition, mismanagement etc.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of above.

#### **Programmes for Design Inputs and Marketing Facilities**

\*231. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a programme to provide design inputs and marketing facilities to the handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the progress of development of Handloom sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the measures proposed by the Government for promotion of handloom sector keeping in view challenges posed by the W.T.O. framework ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Design inputs and marketing facilities are the thrust areas of several schemes implemented by the Ministry of Textiles in the handloom sector. Design inputs are being provided through the 'Freelance Designers Scheme', 'Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing' Scheme, 'Project Package Scheme' and the Weavers Service Centres. Further, to provide Design Intelligence and inputs, a National Design Centre has been set up in collaboration with National Institute of Fashion Technology with connectivity to Handloom Export Promotion Council and five Weavers Service Centres.

Marketing support is provided to the sector through National Expos, District level fairs, participation in Haats and setting up of Handloom Complexes.

(c) and (d) The progress of the sector is regularly reviewed with the help and association of the State Governments, through whom most of the developmental schemes are being implemented. Such reviews are a continuous process.

(e) To promote the Handloom sector, in the light of the challenges posed by the WTO, efforts are being made to make the sector more competitive, so as to enable it to face the challenges that would be thrown by removal of the economic barriers. Effective measures are being initiated to increase productivity and improve quality, in the handloom sector, to face the open world competition after removal of the quantitative restrictions by 2004. Apart from the ongoing schemes, a new scheme called 'Deendayal Hathkargha Pratsahan Yojana' is proposed to be introduced from the next financial year to augment infrastructure, design and marketability of handloom goods.

#### **Decline In Tobacco Trade**

\*232. SHRI RAJAIHAH MALYALA :  
SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the tobacco trade in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to allow direct foreign investments for developing and manufacturing of cigarettes to assist tobacco trade ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) There has been no perceptible declining trend in the volume of tobacco trade.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Consumer Price Index**

\*233. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been unprecedented hike in the Consumer Price Index and the rate of inflation;

(b) if so, the trend of the Consumer Price Index, whole Sale Price Index and inflation from January, 1999 till date and the month-wise comparative figures for the last two years;

(c) whether the prices of most of the items registered a sharp increase despite low rate of inflation during September, 1999;

(d) if so, the reasons for increase in the prices of various items and in the rate of inflation thereafter;

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the price rise and the rate of inflation;

(f) whether the Reserve Bank of India has suggested some measures to check the price rise; and

(g) if so, the details thereof; and the extent to which these measures have been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) There has been no unprecedented rise in the annual rate of inflation based on the Consumer Price Index or the Wholesale Price Index during 1999-2000. The comparative figures of the point to point annual rate of inflation (month over month) based on the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers CPI(IW), Consumer Price Index for Agricultural Labourers - CPI (AL) and the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for the last two years are listed below :-

*Annual Rates of inflation in WPI and CPI*

(Percent)

Year	Base	WPI 81-82	CPI(IW) 1982	CPI(AL) 86-87
1	2	3	4	5
<b>1998-99</b>				
	APR	5.6	8.2	4.6
	MAY	6.6	10.5	7.0
	JUN	7.5	12.4	8.9
	JUL	8.3	14.8	10.7
	AUG	8.3	15.0	11.8
	SEP	8.5	16.3	12.9
	OCT	8.3	18.6	15.6
	NOV	8.1	19.7	18.3
	DEC	6.3	15.3	15.1
	JAN	4.7	9.4	9.1
	FEB	5.3	8.6	8.8
	MAR	5.0	8.9	8.8
<b>1999-2000</b>				
	APR	4.3	8.4	8.1
	MAY	3.8	7.7	8.0
	JUN	3.1	5.3	6.7
	JUL	2.3	3.2	5.2
	AUG	2.2	3.1	5.1

1	2	3	4	5
	SEP	2.7	2.1	4.4
	OCT	2.9	0.9	3.6
	NOV	2.8	0.0	1.9
	DEC	2.8	0.5	2.0
	JAN	3.0*	2.6	

\*Provisional

The CPI based inflation rate had reached an unprecedented peak of 19.7% in November 1998. Thereafter it declined to 9.4% in January 1999. From then on, there was a continuous and sharp deceleration registering zero rate of inflation in November 1999. In January 2000, it rose to a modest 2.6% almost coinciding with the WPI based inflation rate of 3%.

The trend was similar in the inflation rate based on CPI(AL) and the WPI, CPI(AL) fell from 9.1% in January 1999 to 2.0% in December 1999, whereas WPI based inflation rate fell from 4.7% in January 1999 to 3.0% in January 2000.

(c) and (d) The WPI based annual rate of inflation for the month of September, 1999 was 2.7% and thereafter it has hovered around the 3% level. The latest available rate of inflation for the week ended February 19,2000 is still at a low of 2.1% (provisional).

Prices of most commodities of daily use during September 1999 remained moderately low. In fact prices of some commodities were even lower than last year. Some price rise was recorded in rice and wheat, but much of this was due to the increase in the Minimum Support Prices given to the farmers.

Rate of inflation of some of the major commodities and commodity groups for the month of September 1999 and for the week ended February 19,2000 are given below :

Commodities	Annual change in wholesale prices (%)	
	September 1999 over September 1998	February 19,2000 over Feb., 19, 1999
Rice	13.9	0.8
Wheat	18.7	3.1
Pulses	7.6	2.2
Fruits and Vegetable	-14.6	-1.5
Sugar	0.9	0.6
Edible Oils	-15.5	-19.3
Essential Commodities	0.8	-0.2

(e) to (g) The annual rate of inflation during 1999-2000 has remained quite low. This was the result of the Government's concerted efforts to keep inflation under control through effective supply management and also through close monitoring of prices and supply of essential commodities of daily use. Corrective action was taken as and when required to prevent prices from rising. It shall be the Government's continued endeavour to maintain stability in prices.

In view of the liquidity overhang, as reflected in the growth (16-18 percent) of broad money (M3) during the last three years, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has laid emphasis on the need to carefully control the overall monetary situation so as to nullify the impact of inflationary expectations on the overall price scenario. The RBI takes into account the spillover effect of large monetary expansion in setting out its monetary policy stance.

#### **Appointment of Directors in Public Sector Undertakings**

\*234. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA :  
DR. C. KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) The policy and criteria followed by the Government for appointment of Directors on the Board of Directors of the Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) the number of Directors appointed in each of the PSUs during the last three years, till December 31, 1999;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make appointment policy/criteria transparent;

(d) whether there is any proposal to elect one-third of Directors of all PSUs by workers Associations;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a), (c), (d) and (f) The policy and practice of the Government is to appoint, through a fair, objective and transparent selection, competent professionals and men of standing as full time functional and part time non-official Directors besides nominating departmental Government officials to the Board of Public Sector Undertakings. Boards are structured to cater to all aspects of corporate governance. There is no proposal to elect one-third of the Directors of all the PSUs by workers associations.

(b) As per information readily available 88 and 15 full time directors were appointed during the years 1998 and 1999 respectively.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Investment in Loss Making Public Sector Undertakings**

\*235. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged the Government not to finance the loss making Public Sector Undertakings in the country;

(b) if so, the total investments made by the Government in loss making PSUs during the last three years;

(c) whether the efforts of the Government to revive the loss making units have gone waste; and

(d) if so, the factors responsible for such losses ?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No Sir.

(b) There were 102, 104 and 100 loss making CPSUs respectively as on 31.3.1996, 31.3.1997 and 31.3.98 the period upto which information is available. The net investments made by the Central Government in CPSUs, including loss making, are available in Statements 17 & 18 of Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey for the respective years, which had been laid in the Parliament and are published documents.

(c) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to restructure and revive loss making PSUs. As a result, many PSUs have been able to restructure their operations, improve productivity and achieve a turn around in performance.

(d) The factors responsible for losses vary from unit to unit. Some of the general factors have been low capacity utilisation, out dated technology, obsolete plant and machinery, low productivity, input cost escalations, resource crunch, high interest and depreciation burden, weak marketing strategy, surplus manpower etc.

#### **Pact with Japan on Coal Technology**

\*236. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI :  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Japan signed an agreement to pool their resources towards developing clean coal technologies for power plants and other coal based industries;

(b) if so, whether for the first time both the countries have agreed on the improvement of coal preparation technologies that would contribute to realising environmental preservation;

(c) if so, the other details of the pact signed between India and Japan on coal technology; and

(d) the financial assistance provided by Japan for setting up of coal washeries and coal enrichment technology to make India coal green ?

**THE MINISTER OF POWER AND MINISTER OF MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGLAM) :** (a) to (d) Government has not signed any agreement with Japan to pool their resources towards developing clean coal technologies for power plants and other coal based industries. However, CMPDIL has signed agreements with M/s Center for coal utilisation, Japan since 1997 for the following jobs :

- (i) Pre survey work for research programme for an environment-friendly coal utilisation system in India in 1997.
- (ii) Survey work for Research programme for an environment-friendly coal utilisation in India in 1998.
- (iii) Updating of survey work for research programme for an environment-friendly coal utilisation system in India in 2000 in progress.

No financial assistance has been provided by Japan to CIL for setting up of coal washeries or coal beneficiation technology.

A delegation from Japan Coal Energy Centre visited Delhi on 18.1.2000 and made a presentation to CFRI. The CFRI and JCOAL have had constructive discussions and see potential as partners for future collaboration. CFRI and JCOAL agreed to continue the discussion on the possible research and development in the field of coal preparation and technologies for mutual benefit.

#### Capital Market

**\*237. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :**  
**DR. SANJAY PASWAN :**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various bogus companies in the name of software information technology have started manipulating the primary and secondary markets;

(b) if so, the number of NBFCs which have changed their names and come out by changing their names to information technology companies;

(c) the steps proposed by the RBI/SEBI in this regard;

(d) whether Investment Grievances Forum and its President has made a representation to his Ministry to enquire into the superficial 'teji' in the share bazar/capital market; and

(e) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) :** (a) to (c) Recently there have been instances of companies changing their names to software/information technology companies. According to information provided by the Reserve bank of India (RBI) 17 NBFCs have changed their names to information technology companies. Change of names by companies is a subject which is regulated by various provisions under the Companies Act, 1956. RBI has prescribed, vide their circular dated 13th January, 2000, as part of the terms and conditions for granting of Certificate of Registration (COR), that an NBFC intending to change its present name would need to obtain prior permission of RBI before approaching the Registrar of Companies for change of name. Any violation of these directions would attract action against the company, under the RBI Act, 1934, including cancellation of COR, if already granted, or rejection of its application for registration, as the case may be. With a view to protecting the interest of investors, SEBI has taken the following steps : (i) alerted the investors through the press advising them to be cautious in trading in such scrips, (ii) exchanges have been asked to closely monitor the trading and other developments in respect of shares of such companies, (iii) it has been made mandatory for such companies to separately show the performance and results of software activity in their quarterly/annual reports, (iv) entry norms for public/rights issues by such companies have been further tightened by way of requirement of profitability track record of three years in the information technology sector and (v) 74 such companies have been transferred to the rolling settlement segment to reduce volatility in such scrips.

(d) and (e) The President of the Investors' Grievances Forum has represented to the Ministry of Finance in this regard. While price discovery is market driven, SEBI has alerted stock exchanges to take proactive action including imposing special/adhoc margins, exposure reduction, earlier pay-ins, increase in volatility margins.

[Translation]

#### Houses for Weavers

**\*238. SHRI HARI BHAI SHANKER MAHALE :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned funds for construction of houses for the weavers in the country during 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) whether these funds have been fully utilised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The State-wise details of funds sanctioned and released by the Government of India and its utilisation by State Governments are given in enclosed Statement.

A major portion of the funds released has been utilised. However incertain cases funds were sanctioned only towards the end of financial year 1997-98. In some cases there were also delays at the level of State Governments in transferring funds to their implementing agencies. For these reasons funds have not been completely utilised in some States.

The Central Government has been reviewing and monitoring the Scheme at regular intervals for appropriate remedial measures and to impress upon the State Governments for speedy implementation and proper utilisation of allocated funds.

#### Statement

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Amount sanctioned in 1997-98*	Amount released in 1997-98*	Amount utilised by State Govt. as per Utilisation Certificate submitted
1.	Andhra Pd.	274.16	146.54	146.54
2.	Arunachal Pd.	100.62	50.31	50.31
3.	Assam	79.18	39.59	39.59
4.	Karnataka	107.40	53.70	—
5.	Madhya Pd.	200.00	200.00	—
6.	Maharashtra	56.78	28.39	28.39
7.	Nagaland	704.50	352.25	352.25
8.	Orissa	142.36	90.36	—
9.	Rajasthan	241.00	120.50	114.01
10.	Tamil Nadu	220.12	110.06	110.06
11.	Tripura	28.10	14.05	—
12.	West Bengal	192.50	96.25	96.25
Total		2346.72	1302.00	937.40

\*Usually 50% of the total amount sanctioned in a year is released as first instalment in a same year. The remaining 50% is released as second instalment, after the utilisation of funds released earlier is certified by the State Governments through a Utilisation Certificate.

[English]

#### Shortage of Small Coins

\*239. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI . Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of coins of small denominations such as Paisa 25, 50, Rs.1, 2 and 5 in the country;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that the 'Chit System' in place of small changes is being floated by traders in various parts of the country;

(c) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India is taking any effective steps to meet the shortage of small change in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) There has been a general shortage of coins in different denominations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Keeping in view the Reserve Bank of India requirement of coins, the Govt. Mints are being modernised to increase the indigenous production of coins. The Govt. has also imported/ is importing coins, as under, to reduce the shortage of coins :

(In Million Pieces)

Denomination			
Year	Rs. 5	Rs. 2	Re.1
1997-98	Nil	300	700
1998-99	Nil	300	700
1999-2000	400	300	300
2000-2001	1000	750	750

#### Production of Regional Films

\*240. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of regional films produced during 1999 as compared to the films produced during the last two years, language-wise;

(b) the details of special incentives and facilities provided by the State/Union Government for encouraging production of quality regional films in the country in general and Maharashtra in particular, during the last three years;

(c) the details of major problems being faced by regional films; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives taken/under consideration for promotion and development of regional films ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The number of feature films certified by the Central Board of Film Certification for public exhibition was 764 in 1999 as compared to 697 in 1998 and 693 in 1997. The language-wise break up of the certified films for the year 1997, 1998 and 1999 is given in enclosed Statement. The increasing trend of figures for

production of films for many of the regional languages shows a situation of growth.

Many State Governments encourage making of films in respective regional languages and they offer facilities like exemption or reduction of entertainment tax, subsidies for production of films and compulsory exhibition of regional films in cinema theatres for a minimum specified number of weeks every year.

Government of Maharashtra offers the following incentives to producers of Marathi films;

- (i) Rs.15 lakhs grant-in-aid is provided to the film producer for production of a Marathi film.
- (ii) 50% concession is given on film shootings if the film is shot in Goregaon film City and Kolhapur Film City.
- (iii) Annual Award is given for Marathi films of thematic and aesthetic and excellence. Producer, Director and Members of crafts are also given awards.
- (iv) Marathi films are totally exempted from payment of entertainment tax.
- (v) International and national award winning Marathi films are given a special prize of Rs.1lakh.
- (vi) Theatre owners are expected to reserve at least four weeks for screening Marathi films in a year.

Non-availability of adequate exhibition outlets and increasing cost of production are perceived as main obstacles to the growth of regional cinema.

The National Film Development Corporation promotes production of regional cinema and has produced 26 regional language films in the last 3 years. Regional films are telecast by the National Network and Regional Kendras of Doordarshan on a weekly basis and by the Regional Satellite channels on a daily basis. In view of the employment generation and income generation potential of the entertainment industry including film industry, the Government has been consistently supportive. The Government has been organizing International Film Festivals which provide important exposure to regional films also. The National Film Awards every year prominently include films in regional languages.

In the budget proposals presented to the Parliament for the year 2000-2001, the following significant benefits have been proposed :

1. The benefit of Section 80 HHF of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to individuals/proprietors engaged in the export of entertainment software.
2. Basic customs duty on cinematograph cameras and other related equipment has been reduced from 40% to 25%.

3. Basic customs duty on colour positive films in jumbo rolls and colour negative films in rolls of certain sizes has been reduced from 15% to 5%. Countervailing duty on these items has also been abolished.

4. The limit of submission of statements by film producers under Section 285 B of the Income Tax Act has been raised from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000 w.e.f. 1.4.2001.

#### Statement

*Language wise break-up of films certified for Public Exhibition in the last three years by CBFC*

Language	1997	1998	1999
Hindi	117	153	166
Telugu	151	124	132
Tamil	128	133	153
Malayalam	92	69	65
Kannada	81	72	87
Marathi	9	18	24
Punjabi	14	11	—
Nepali	2	4	—
Gujarati	10	15	27
Bengali	49	48	51
Bhojpuri	2	6	2
Rajasthani	2	4	—
Assamese	5	5	7
English	7	5	6
Manipuri	—	2	—
Oriya	1	19	15
Urdu	1	—	—
Garhwali	1	1	1
Tea-Tribe	1	—	—
Persian	—	1	—
Kodava	—	1	—
Tulu	—	2	—
Kashmiri	—	—	1
French	—	—	1
Maithili	—	—	1
Hindustani	—	—	1
Chotanagpuri	—	—	1
Haryanvi	—	—	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>764</b>

### National Jute Mill at Howrah

2370. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Jute Mills at Rajgunje in Howrah under NJMC is under lockout;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to run the mill properly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There has been no lockout in the National Jute Mills under NJMC. However, there was a temporary stoppage of production in the National Jute Mill w.e.f. 03.11.99 on account of non-availability of raw material due to non-payment of arrears dues by NJMC to Jute Corporation of India. The production in the National Jute Mill has since been resumed. The Government is taking various measures to restart production in the mill by procuring raw jute under a buy-back arrangement with STC. Efforts are also being made to run the NJMC mills on conversion basis.

### Export of Marine Products

2371. SHRI SUBODH ROY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has extended its activities to Kerala; and

(b) if so, the contribution made by MPEDA to increase the exports of marine products from the State ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) Act 1972, MPEDA is responsible for the development of the marine products industry with special reference to exports. The various initiatives taken including schemes implemented by MPEDA for increasing the exports of marine products from Kerala include, inter-alia, participating in the share capital of six companies in project related activities of processing, aquaculture and deep sea fishing; assisting installation of equipment on mechanised vessels for diversified fishing; setting up jointly with the Kerala Industrial Infrastructural Development Corporation (KINFRA) a holding company to promote a pre-processing infrastructure project at Aroor; extending Grant-in-aid for procurement of seafood processing machinery; extend subsidy for establishment of shrimp hatcheries and new shrimp farms; rendering technical assistance to shrimp farmers; promoting fresh water prawn culture in low lying areas; organising training cum extension cum demonstration programmes for the benefit of fishermen, pre-processing and processing workers etc. and implementation of various schemes for quality upgradation and modernising the seafood industry.

### Performance of Banks

2372. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of foreign banks and public sector banks operating in the country, separately, State-wise;

(b) the amount of domestic and NRI deposits attracted by Indian banks and foreign banks, separately; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring about attitudinal improvement in the public sector banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The number of branches of foreign banks and public sector banks operating in the country, separately, state-wise as on 31.3.1999 is given in the enclosed Statement I and II.

(b) The data monitoring system of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, total deposits of public sector, private sector and foreign banks as on 31.3.1999 are given in the enclosed statement III, IV and V respectively.

(c) Training Courses organized by banks for functionaries at different levels generally include an input on attitudinal responses to emerging situations.

### Statement-I

#### State-wise and Bank-wise branches of Foreign Banks as on 31.3.1999

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Foreign Banks Branches
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	1
3.	Chandigarh	1
4.	Delhi	34
5.	Gujarat	4
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Haryana	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9.	Karnataka	10
10.	Kerala	4
11.	Maharashtra	63
12.	Punjab	1
13.	Tamil Nadu	18
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2
15.	West Bengal	33



## Statement

## State-wise and Bank-wise branches of Public

	State Bank of India	SB of Bikaner & Jaipur	SB of Hydera- bad	SB of Indore	SB of Mysore	SB of Patiala	SB of Sau- rashtra	SB of Travan- core	Allaha- bad Bank	Andhra Bank	Bank of Baroda	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1. Andhra Pradesh	816	5	523	2	18	4	3	7	23	795	69	
2. Arunachal Prd.	42											
3. Assam	206	1							62	1	13	
4. Bihar	929	11				1			233	3	110	
5. Goa	49				3	1			1	1	28	
6. Gujarat	442	7	6	8	3	4	353	3	24	5	693	
7. Haryana	164	8	5	2		125		1	29	1	25	
8. Himachal Prd.	146					74			3		5	
9. J & K	120					3			3		3	
10. Karnataka	297	3	113	1	482	4	2	12	15	20	37	
11. Kerala	225	1	6		10		2	556	5	7	43	
12. Madhya Pradesh	688	6	3	334	2	5	3	2	173	7	91	
13. Maharashtra	808	23	171	23	17	10	21	11	85	28	295	
14. Manipur	16								2		3	
15. Meghalaya	87								1		2	
16. Mizoram	25											
17. Nagaland	43								4		4	
18. NCT of Delhi	190	25	12	10	10	39	8	7	45	14	66	
19. Orissa	472	2	5		1			1	55	77	35	
20. Punjab	239	7	2			350			37	2	45	
21. Rajasthan	163	660	2	7	1	12	3	1	31	3	323	
22. Sikkim	26										1	
23. Tamil Nadu	576	5	15	2	28	4	5	66	25	33	104	

-II

## Sector Banks as on March 31, 1999

Bank of India	Bank of Maharashtra	Canara Bank	Central Bank of India	Corporation Bank	Dena Bank	Indian Bank	Indian Overseas Bank	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Punjab National Bank	Punjab & Sind Bank	Syndicate Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Uco Bank	Vijaya Bank
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
73	28	175	103	66	18	207	116	15	53	4	305	129	12	43	80
			1										2	2	2
8		15	103		2	20	15	2	45	5	5	46	188	114	8
405	1	117	385	4	10	28	18	8	453	10	26	86	113	214	9
30	9	23	23	31	16	6	12	1	5	1	18	14	2	5	5
226	34	41	223	35	530	39	55	25	89	8	50	180	14	81	30
20	5	53	78	11	9	18	14	107	321	37	50	43	4	26	10
7		11	27	1		2	4	10	216	11	1	10	1	121	1
4		7	11		2	1	2	7	66	10	2	5	1	13	2
59	41	540	57	210	27	65	63	4	42	5	491	98	7	28	418
70	3	244	73	53	11	89	113	6	18	3	119	132	2	20	70
260	121	48	442	6	105	14	9	42	220	29	23	191	6	127	6
618	901	203	488	66	268	77	70	50	147	25	146	338	29	120	70
			3				1		2	2			22	3	2
2		2	4			2	1		6		1	3	12	4	2
														1	1
			2			1				1			2	2	3
53	16	83	70	36	26	29	29	65	152	61	82	55	25	40	26
117	1	40	50	5	2	47	73	7	51	2		48	98	164	7
70	5	102	93	8	8	32	38	202	493	356	12	69	4	87	7
42	6	24	97	6	15	10	11	86	288	21	12	52	6	141	11
1		1	10											2	1
113	13	470	163	73	25	744	664	17	85	8	104	135	12	68	49

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24. Tripura		33								1		2
25. Uttar Pradesh	1382		21	5	8		54	3	3	624	9	511
26. West Bengal	737		15	6	3	5	2	3	3	474	16	100
27. Andaman & Nico.	18									1		
28. Chandigarh	26		1	1			23			3	2	5
29. D. & N. H.	1											1
30. Daman & Diu	3							4				1
31. Lakshadweep												
31. Pondicherry	12			1		1			1	1	1	1

**Statement-III***Deposits of Public Sector Banks  
as on 31.3.1999*

Source : Balance Sheets (Amount Rupees in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Deposits
1	2	3
1.	State Bank of India	169041.93
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	7740.82
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	10614.88
4.	State Bank of Indore	4027.90
5.	State Bank of Mysore	5574.83
6.	State Bank of Patiala	8847.27
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	4779.05
8.	State Bank of Travancore	6650.30

**Nationalised Banks**

1.	Allahabad Bank	15510.36
2.	Andhra Bank	10438.74
3.	Bank of Baroda	44614.04
4.	Bank of India	44430.23
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	10928.52
6.	Canara Bank	41958.61

1	2	3
7.	Central Bank of India	30649.31
8.	Corporation Bank	12601.43
9.	Dena Bank	11795.35
10.	Indian Bank	17155.92
11.	Indian Overseas Bank	21914.31
12.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	16804.88
13.	Punjab National Bank	40777.13
14.	Punjab & Sind Bank	9496.60
15.	Syndicate Bank	19914.34
16.	Union Bank of India	28135.66
17.	United Bank of India	14516.28
18.	UCO Bank	16251.21
19.	Vijaya Bank	9690.23

**Statement-IV***Deposits of Private Sector Banks  
As on 31.3.1999*

(Amount Rupees in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Deposits
1	2	3
1.	Bank of Madras	3013.11

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1		1	3			1	1			1		2	42	5	1
222	9	209	427	18	38	32	74	221	902	126	218	472	42	124	35
202	13	71	246	14	28	58	65	42	219	18	47	87	719	297	23
		1				1	1		1		5		1	1	1
7	1	14	7	2	1	6	3	9	27	18	2	7	1	7	3
		1			6										
1			1		1			1				1		1	
											9				
1	1	3	1	1		22	8	1	1		2	1	1	6	1

1	2	3	1	2	3
2.	Bank of Rajasthan	2984.92	23.	U.T.I. Bank	3040.69
3	Bareilly Corporation Bank	*	24.	SBI Comm. & INT. Bank Ltd.	432.76
4.	Benares State Bank	784.30	25.	Ganesh Bank of Kurundwad	113.32
5.	Bharat Overseas Bank	1286.17	26.	Indus Ind Bank	5018.42
6.	Catholic Syrian Bank	2139.16	27.	ICICI Bank	.6072.94
7.	City Union Bank	1226.96	28.	Global Trust Bank	4096.80
8.	Dhanalakshmi Bank	1235.94	29.	HDFC Bank	2915.11
9.	Federal Bank	6782.07	30.	Centurian Bank	2140.81
10.	Jammu & Kashmir Bank	6444.03	31.	Bank of Punjab	1766.10
11.	Karnataka Bank	4382.11	32.	Development Credit Bank	1883.39
12.	Karur Vysya Bank	2537.93	33.	Times Bank	3011.18
13.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank	1591.01	34.	IDBI Bank	2092.30
14.	Lord Krishna Bank	667.77	*Amalgamated with Bank of Baroda.		
15.	Nainital Bank	383.72	Statement-V		
16.	Nedungadi Bank	1182.88	Deposits of Foreign Banks as on 31.3.1999		
17.	Ratnakar Bank	337.53	(Amount Rs. in Crore)		
18.	Sangli Bank	1160.29	Sl.	Name of Bank	Deposits
19.	South Indian Bank	3122.66	No.		
20.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	2055.95	1	2	3
21.	United Western Bank	3434.60	1.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	486.41
22.	Vysya Bank	6510.40	2.	ABN Amre Bank	1881.00

1	2	3
3.	American Express Bank	1733.30
4.	ANZ Grindlays Bank	8691.08
5.	Bank of America NT & SA	3501.85
6.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait	280.31
7.	Mashraq Bank	236.34
8.	Bank of Nova Scotia	593.13
9.	Bank of Tokyo	995.11
10.	Credit Agricule Indosuez	224.35
11.	Banque Nationales de Paris	924.04
12.	Barclays Bank	163.13
13.	British Bank of Middle East	977.33
14.	CITI Bank	9436.63
15.	Credit Lyonnais	771.31
16.	Doutachs Bank	2128.35
17.	Hongkong Bank	6386.02
18.	Oman International Bank	352.76
19.	Sakura Bank	246.97
20.	Sanwa Bank	91.69
21.	Societe Generals	421.67
22.	Sonali Bank	21.82
23.	Standard Chartered Bank	6352.65
24.	ING Bank	192.69
25.	The Chase Monhault Bank	6.11
26.	State Bank of Mauritius	127.12
27.	Dev. Bank of Singapore	110.80
28.	Dresdner Bank	197.17
29.	Commerce Bank	266.45
30.	Bank of Ceylon	40.74
31.	The Siam Commercial Bank	67.53
32.	Bank Internasional Indonesia	32.12

33.	Arab Bangladesh Bank	22.15
34.	Cho Hung Bank	90.86
35.	China Trust Com. Bank	53.11
36.	Fuji Bank	119.66
37.	Krung Thai Bank	2.24
38.	Overseas Chinese Banking Corp.	14.59
39.	Sumitomo Bank	193.05
40.	Toronto Dominion Bank	NIL
41.	Muscat Bank	20.69
42.	Morgan Stanley Bkg. Co.	NIL

[English]

**Exemption to NGOs for Cyclone  
Affected Areas in Orissa**

2373. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :  
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of NGOs have applied for income-tax exemption u/s 80G for the Super Cyclone affected areas of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of the NGOs provided exemption;

(c) the names of NGOs applied for such exemption in Delhi circle during January 2000 and are pending;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Exemption under section 80G allowed by the Commissioners of Income tax, all over India. CBDT does not maintain any centralised information on the subject.

(c) to (e) No NGO applied for exemption u/s 80G in January, 2000. However after the cyclone, the following, NGOs in Delhi applied for and were granted approval u/s 80G of the Income-Tax Act :-

(i) Aruna Abhay Oswal Trust.

(ii) Orissa Cyclone Relief Reconstruction Fund.

(iii) We Care.

#### Export Promotion Councils

2374. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Export Promotion Councils working in the country;

(b) the extent to which these EPCs are able to meet their objectives/target;

(c) whether Government propose to restructure the functions of these EPCs; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) There are 20 Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) out of which 11 are under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce and 9 are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textile. Their names are given in enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) Globalisation and economic liberalisation have created new opportunities and challenges in the world markets. Adopting to these developments by Export Promotion Councils is important in order for them to retain their relevance to the national export effort. To induce commensurate responses to the rapid changes in the external economic environment, it is necessary that EPCs play a more meaningful role in the export effort through specialised and focussed attention. Rationalisation of election procedures is also considered necessary to ensure that real exporters have an effective say in the management of the EPCs. The ongoing initiative to restructure the EPCs seeks to address these concerns.

#### Statement

1. Electronics and Software Computer Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.
2. Engineering Export Promotion Council, Calcutta.
3. Shellac Export Promotion Council, Calcutta.
4. Council for Leather Exports, Chennai.
5. Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceutical and Cosmetics Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.
6. The Plastics and Lenoleums Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

7. Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta.

8. Overseas Construction Council of India, New Delhi.

9. Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

10. Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

11. Cashew Export Promotion Council, Cochin.

12. Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi.

13. The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

14. Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

15. Wool and Woolens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

16. The Handloom Export Promotion Council, Chennai.

17. Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

18. The Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

19. The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.

20. Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

[Translation]

#### UNDP Aid for Weavers

2375. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to invite UNDP or any other international agency to raise the dexterity of the weavers in the country, particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether weavers of Bihar have not received any technical benefit or information from the Government;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to exhibit the goods produced by the weavers of Bihar at international exhibitions and other marketing spots;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to provide a special package to the weavers of Bihar; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India extended adequate assistance under various schemes and programmes to provide technical benefits to the Weavers of Bihar. The Central Assistance is being extended to provide information and technical education to Weavers through Weavers Service Centre (WSC) located at Bhagalpur.

(d) Under the Scheme Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing, assistance is being extended to the Handloom agencies to develop exportable products. The participation of handloom organisations in the International and domestic fairs and exhibitions is encouraged.

(e) and (f) The Government of India would continue to extend assistance under various developmental and welfare schemes to the State Governments including Bihar for the benefit of Handloom Weavers on receipt of viable proposals and availability of funds.

[English]

#### Ways and Means Advance

2376.SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government consider to increase the time period of Ways and Means amount given to State Governments by the Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Import of Soyabean

2377.SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 35 per cent import duty was reduced for the last two years on import of Soyabean from USA;

(b) if so, whether the percentage in import of Soyabean from USA has gone from 12% to 46%;

(c) whether it would have an adverse reflection on indigenous production of Soyabean; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Procurement Centres by Cotton Corporation of India

2378.SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of procurement centres set up by the Cotton Corporation of India for purchase of cotton in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the number of new procurement centres proposed to be set up during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Statewise number of procurement centres set up by the Cotton Corporation of India are as follows :

State	No. of Purchase Centres
Punjab	15
Haryana	10
Rajasthan	30
MP	38
Gujarat	41
AP	57
Karnataka	22
Tamilnadu	5
others	4
	(Meghalaya-1 Orissa-3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>222*</b>

\*(included 13 new centres opened in the financial year 1999-2000).

(b) During current financial year 1999-2000 the CCI has opened 13 new centres, 1 centre each in Orissa and Rajasthan, 2 centres in Haryana and 9 centres in Andhra Pradesh and there is no further proposal to open any new centre during the financial year.

[English]

### Mutual Funds

2379. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether since India's liquidity market is liberalized and private players are allowed to enter mutual funds-sector, many have found this sector as a soft peddling ground for frauding investors and a large number of companies have closed their shops siphoning out the invested funds; and

(b) if so, the number and names of such companies so far reported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) There are no instances of Mutual Funds having closed their operations. However, the operations of CRB Mutual Fund were stopped by SEBI in May 1997 following irregularities in the non-banking finance activities of their group companies.

### Exploration of Gold by Multinational Companies

2380. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Multi-National Companies have been given permission for exploration and mining of gold and diamonds in the country between 1996 to 1998;

(b) if so, the details of such MNCs;

(c) whether these MNCs have started the exploration and mining work;

(d) if not; the reasons therefor; and

(e) the fresh steps taken to devise a quick process based on transparent criteria to enable these companies to get down to business as early as possible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Companies Act, 1956 can be granted a prospecting licence or mining lease for exploration or mining of minerals including gold and diamonds. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a foreign

company is not allowed to undertake prospecting/mining operations.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

### Headquarters of Insurance Regulatory Authority

2381. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has urged the Union Government to locate the headquarters of the Insurance Regulatory Authority in Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to the proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has also suggested Hyderabad city in this regards; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (d) Yes Sir.

(b) to (c) and (e) The head quarters of Insurance Regulatory Authority (IRA) is presently in Delhi. Government of India has received request from several State Governments including from Andhra Pradesh to locate the headquarters in their State. After the notification of the authority under the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Act, if it is decided to relocate it away from Delhi, their requests will be considered for appropriate decision.

[Translation]

### Export of Pesticides

2382. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pesticides are exported;

(b) if so, the amount of foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years;

(c) whether small Pesticides manufacturing units are facing closure due to excise duty factor;

(d) if so, the number of small units which have been closed down so far;



(e) whether the multinational companies are tightening their grip on this industry; and

(f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to save these small industries ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three financial years, the export earnings, as per DGCI and S statistics are as follows :

(In Crores)

(1996-97)	(1997-98)	(1998-99) (April'98 - Feb'99)
701.7	691.7	764.9

(c) The Government does not have any information to suggest this.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government has no information to suggest this trend.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Conditions Imposed by World Bank for Granting Loan

2383. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has stipulated a precondition for removing the corruption in providing loans to the developing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the opinion of the World Bank regarding India in this regard; and

(d) the details of projects in India which could not get the required amount due to this precondition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) As part of the World Bank's effort to combat corruption it has made certain provision in its terms of lending to all countries. Under these provisions, if the Bank determines with respect to any contract to be financed out of the proceeds of the loan that corrupt or fraudulent practices were engaged in by representatives of the Borrowers or of a beneficiary of the loan during the procurement or execution of such contract without the Borrower having taken timely and appropriate action satisfactory to the Bank

to remedy the situation; and establishes the amount of expenditure in respect of such contract which would otherwise have been eligible for financing out the proceeds of the loan - then the Bank may terminate the Borrowers right to make withdrawal in respect of such amount.

These conditions apply to all loans made by the Bank to all countries and is not specific to India. Financing of none of the projects in India has been affected due to this provisions. The World Bank has expressed no special opinion about India in this regard.

[English]

#### Dispute regarding Ownership to the Salt Department

2384. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are disputes regarding ownership/ title and possession of land belonging to the Salt Department in the Eastern Suburbs of Mumbai and Trombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Revenue Department of Maharashtra has passed certain orders in favour of private parties;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As on 31st December, 1999, there were 71 pending cases of ownership disputes and possession of lands pertaining to the departmental salt lands in the Eastern Suburbs of Mumbai (Belapur, Bhandup, Wadala and Trombay) in various Courts.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. In four cases, claims of ownership of land by salt manufacturers have been upheld by the Revenue Department of the Government of Maharashtra. The Union Government is not in agreement with those decisions and has, therefore, initiated necessary legal action in the matter.

#### Visit of Swiss Trade Team

2385. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Swiss trade team visited Hyderabad during their visit to India recently;

(b) if so, whether the Swiss team selected Hyderabad to develop trade in India; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps taken by the Government to encourage them in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) A Swiss delegation led by Mr. Pascal Couchepin, Minister of Economy visited Hyderabad during their visit to India during February 15-18, 2000.

(b) The Swiss delegation identified Andhra Pradesh as one of the investment destinations in India.

(c) Government has already liberalised the inflow of foreign investment and necessary bilateral framework exists for stepping up Swiss investment in India.

#### **Textiles Market facing Opposition from Synthetic Materials**

2386.SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the textile markets are facing stiff opposition from synthetic materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE. N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The textile market consists of various types of textile items produced out of diverse range of textile fibres/yarns viz. Cotton, Cellulosic, Synthetic, Woollen, Jute and multiple blend of such fibres/yarns. The diverse range of textile material including that of synthetic material complement and supplement each other in the context of varying consumer demands and preferences.

(c) The Government through the policy measures, encourages production of all types of textile material to augment the availability of such textile material at reasonable prices to the consumers.

#### **Survey for Tungston Mines in Maharashtra**

2387.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any survey and discovered tungston mines at District Nagpur in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to open tungston mine in Nagpur district; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith place and time by which the extraction work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India (GSI) have discovered tungsten occurrences at Agargaon, (2.23 million tonnes of ore equivalent to 2015 tonnes at 65% WO<sub>3</sub> concentrate) Kuhl-Khobna area (2.50 million tonnes ore equivalent to 7373 tonnes of 65% WO<sub>3</sub> concentrate), Bhaonri (7.89 million tonnes of ore equivalent to 23010 tonnes of 65% to WO<sub>3</sub> concentrate) and Ranburi area (2.53 million tonnes ore equivalent to 68883 tonnes of 65% WO<sub>3</sub> concentrate).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

#### **Pollution from Diesel**

2388.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution from diesel is harmful due to very tiny particles;

(b) whether Euro I and II standards have been prescribed for automobiles;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether more than 50% of tractors utilisation is on roads for transport of goods/passengers;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if so, whether any emission standards have been prescribed for tractors; and

(g) if not, whether Government intend to prescribe and also ban their plying on roads ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes Sir, if particulate matter from diesel is beyond safe limits in the environment.

(b) and (c) India 2000 norms, which are akin to Euro I norms, have been prescribed for all categories of vehicles to be effective from 1-4-2000. Bharat II emission norms

(akin to Euro II norms) have been prescribed for four wheeled vehicles having Gross Vehicle Weight upto 3.5 tons to be effective from 1.4.2000 in the National Capital Region.

(d) and (e) As per the available information, the major tractor utilisation is for agricultural purposes.

(f) and (g) Emission levels have been prescribed for tractors by Ministry of Surface Transport with effect from 1st October, 1999.

**Additional Funds from Asian Development Bank**

2389.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to seek additional fund from Asian Development (ADB);

(b) if so, the amount of ADB loan received by the Government during the last three years and expected to be obtained during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(c) the specific purpose for which the loan/funds received from ADB in these years; and

(d) the extent to which the ADB funds have been utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is given in Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Loans extended by ADB since 1996-97 till 1999-2000*

Name of Project	Date of Singing	Loan Amount (US \$ million)	Utilization till 31.1.2000
1	2	3	4
1405-Power Transmission Sector Project	18.7.1996	275.00	169.307
1415-Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project	10.5.1996	85.00	25.814
1416-Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development Project (HDFC)	15.12.1996	20.00	20.00
1465-Renewable Energy Development Project	23.4.1997	100.00	40.734
1480-Private Sector Infrastructure Facility Project-ICICI	14.8.1997	150.00	98.652
1481-Private Sector Infrastructure Facility Project-IFCI	14.8.1997	100.00	47.285
1506-Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management Program Loan	18.12.1996	250.00	150.00
1549-Housing Finance Project-NHB	6.11.1997	100.00	100.00
1550-Housing Finance Project-HUDCO	6.11.1997	100.00	100.00
1551-Housing Finance Project-HDFC	6.11.1997	100.00	100.00
1556-Mumbai Port Project	25.9.1998	97.80	11.067
1557-Chennai Port Project	25.9.1998	15.20	0.677
1591-LPG Pipeline Project	11.12.1998	150.00	37.863

1	2	3	4
1647-Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure Development Project	2.12.1999	250.00	0.00
1709-Karnataka Urban Development and Coastal Environmental Management	*	175.00	0.00
1717-MP Public Resource Management Program Loan	14.12.1999	250.00	100.00
1719-Urban Environmental and Infrastructure Facility Project-HUDCO	*	90.00	0.00
1720-Urban Environmental and Infrastructure Facility Project -ICICI	*	80.00	0.00
1721-Urban Environmental and Infrastructure Facility Project-IDFC	*	30.00	0.00

\*Loans approved by the ADB Board but not yet signed.

The projects for ADB assistance for financial year 2000-2001 are at various stages of processing and the exact amount of assistance would be known after the loans are approved agreement signed and declared effective.

#### Supervision over Extraction of Coal

2390. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any supervision of the Union Government over the extraction of coal by open cast system in Assam and Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the rules regulated for the private parties engaged in extraction of coal in the above states;

(c) whether there is any licensing authority to grant permission for open cast mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount realised by the Union Government and the State Governments and the quantity of coal extracted from 1995-96 to 1998-99, year wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Union Government through Ministries of Mines and Minerals (Department of Coal), Labour, Environment and Forests and through Planning Commission exercise supervision on coal extraction in the coal mines under North Eastern Coalfields/Coal India Ltd. including opencast mines in the States of Assam and Meghalaya.

(b) to (d) There is no specific rule regulating the private participation in extraction of coal in Assam and Meghalaya.

The Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 provides the rules for grant of mining leases for extraction of minerals including coal and lignite. Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 contains the provision for eligibility of coal mining in the country. As per the provisions in Section 3(3) (a) (iii) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act 1973, the private sector companies engaged in production of iron and steel, generation of thermal power and production of cement can mine coal for captive consumption in their respective enduser plants. After the allotment of captive blocks by the Screening Committee of the Department of Coal to these parties, they are required to apply for Central Government recognition to the persons to prepare the mining plans. The mining plans prepared by such recognised persons are required to be got approved by the empowered Standing Committee of the Department of Coal and thereafter these parties are required to file applications for grant of mining lease before the concerned State Government. After the mining lease is granted by the concerned State Government, the private sector companies can mine coal for captive consumption. Therefore, the Licensing Authority or the Authority to grant mining leases is the concerned State Government.

(e) Requisite information in respect of coal produced by North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) under Coal India Ltd. in the State of Assam is given below :-

Year	Coal extracted (in lakh tonnes)			Amount accrued to the Govt. of India (Rs. in lakhs)		Amount accrued to the State Govt. of Assam (Rs. in lakhs)	
	UG	OC	Total	Cess	CST	Royalty	AGST
1995-96	3.00	5.21	8.21	28.74	345.34	985.20	86.34
1996-97	2.79	4.73	7.52	26.32	328.35	902.40	82.09
1997-98	2.01	4.86	6.87	24.05	310.96	824.40	77.74
1998-99	1.80	4.57	6.37	22.30	288.33	764.40	72.08

There is no coal production in the State of Meghalaya by North Eastern Coalfields.

#### RBI Guidelines for NBFCs

2391. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Is the RBI abdicating its responsibilities ?" appearing in 'The Indian Express' dated February 20, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news item refers to Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) views on formation of a Self Regulatory Organisation (SRO) for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and violations of RBI's direction governing the issue of Commercial Paper (CP) by Bombay Dyeing.

RBI has been regulating NBFCs under the provisions of Chapter III-B of R.B.I. Act and has developed a comprehensive mechanism to effectively supervise the NBFCs holding/accepting public deposits. Though RBI has put in place an effective regulatory and supervisory mechanism, it has been thinking of setting up a SRO which could work towards establishment of a code of ethics, curbing unscrupulous business practices and instilling a sense of discipline among its members. However, SRO would not replace RBI in regard to its supervisory role.

Regarding alleged violation of RBI's directions governing the issue of Commercial Paper RBI has initiated examination of the matter with a view to taking such remedial action as warranted.

#### Cashew Plantation

2392. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total hectares of land brought under cashew plantation in various cashew growing States during Eighth Plan period;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the areas under cashew plantation during the Ninth Plan;

(c) if so, the specific plan formulated by different cashew growing States; and

(d) the assistance extended by the Union Government and proposed to be sanctioned to those States for cashew plantation ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) A total area of 62,065 hectares has been brought under cashew plantation in various cashew growing states in the VIIIth Plan Period.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) The Centrally sponsored scheme for all cashew growing states aims to cover an area of 87,000 ha by the end of the IXth Plan.

(d) So far the Union Government has extended an assistance of Rs. 35.60 crores during the IX Plan out of the proposed provision of Rs. 70 crores for the Plan Period.

#### Plantation Companies

2393. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Plantation companies who raised money from public are not refunding the money on the maturity of their schemes on one reason or the other and are harassing the public;

(b) if so, whether the Government had identified such Plantation Companies on the basis of public complaints and press reports;

(c) if so, the details of these companies and the steps taken by the Government to blacklist such companies/organisations so that they could not raise funds from public through new schemes; and

(d) the names and addresses of Government organisations where public could register their complaints against such companies and organisations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Complaints have been received from investors against various plantation companies.

The Government, vide its press release dated November 18, 1997, directed that schemes through which instruments such as agro bonds and plantation bonds are issued by entities, would be treated as collective investment schemes (CIS) coming under the purview of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). SEBI vide its press release dated November 26, 1997 and its public notice dated December 18, 1997, directed existing schemes to file the details of their schemes with SEBI.

The SEBI (Collective Investment Schemes) Regulations, 1999 were notified on October 15, 1999. Henceforth, no person other than a Collective Investment Management Company, which has obtained a certificate of registration under the Regulations can carry on or sponsor or launch a Collective Investment Scheme. Also, no

existing Collective Investment Scheme is allowed to launch any new scheme or raise money from the investors even under the existing schemes, unless a certificate of registration is granted to it under the Regulations.

SEBI has received information from 642 entities which has reportedly raised about Rs. 2681 crores. Of these 642 entities, 32 entities have applied to SEBI for the grant of registration under the provisions of the SEBI (CIS) Regulations, 1999. As per the provisions of the Regulations, those existing schemes which fail to make an application for grant of registration or are not desirous of obtaining provisional registration from SEBI are required to compulsorily wind up their existing schemes and make payment to the investors. Thus, the remaining 610 CIS entities are required to wind up their schemes and repay the investors.

SEBI has been issuing press releases/public notices from time to time to the effect that no entity can raise funds without obtaining a certificate of registration from SEBI and that till date no entity has been granted registration.

(d) A list of SEBI offices which may be contacted with regard to investor grievances falling under the purview of the SEBI (CIS) Regulations, 1999, is given in the Statement enclosed.

Investors can also approach District Consumer Redressal Forums in case entities fail to honour their commitments.

#### Statement

SEBI Offices	Jurisdiction for the Companies having their registered offices in
SEBI Head Office Mittal Court 'A' Wing, Ground Floor, 224, Nariman Point, Mumbai 400021. Ph.: 285 0451-55; Fax: 204 5633	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu.
SEBI Northern Regional Office Block No.1 Rajendra Bhawan, Rajendra Place District Centre, New Delhi 110 008. Ph : 573 2313, 571 8911; Fax: 5768992	Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Chandigarh.
SEBI Eastern Regional Office : FMC Fortuna, 5th Floor, 234/3A, AJC Bose Road, Calcutta 700 020 Ph. 240 2435, 4307, 6105; Fax: 240 4307	Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
SEBI Southern Regional Office : 3rd Floor, D'Monte Building, 32, D'Monte Colony, TTK Road, Alwarpet, Chennai 600 018 Ph: 499 5676, 5525, 7385, 7480, 7540; Fax: 499 8083	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep and Minicoy.

### Alliance between IDBI and IFCI

2394. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether IDBI wants to undertake an independent study for restructuring of IFCI as reported in 'The Pioneer' dated February 23, 2000;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether IDBI proposes to an alliance with IFCI;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether IDBI itself is in the process of restructuring;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the manner in which it proposes to an alliance with IFCI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) No. Sir. With reference to the news report in 'The Pioneer' of 23rd February, 2000 referred to in part (a) of the question, Chairman, IDBI has reportedly stated that in view of the declining profitability, relatively high rate of Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) and low capital adequacy of IFCI, there is need for an independent committee of experts to examine and suggest viable ways for restructuring IFCI.

(c), (d) and (g) There is no proposal of any alliance between Industrial Development Bank of India and IFCI Ltd.

(e) and (f) IDBI is working on restructuring proposal relating to its capital.

### Export of Handicrafts

2395. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a crafts museum in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government have studied the potential of artisans and handicraft workers for exports in the State; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to enhance the exports of handicrafts from Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However as per census conducted under the aegis of National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) during the year 1995-96, there are 121880 artisans in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Moreover, the crafts of Andhra Pradesh particularly brassware, bidriware, embroidered goods, silver filigree, wood work, carpet and Jewellery are in demand in the international market.

The steps taken by the Government to enhance the exports of handicrafts from the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh include sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams abroad; participation in international fairs and exhibitions; organisation of buyer-seller's meets; overseas publicity and publication of catalogues; conducting of seminars and workshop and holding of Indian International Gift Fair and Indian Carpet Expo as an annual feature.

### Research to find out Minerals in Tamil Nadu

2396. SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware that certain hidden valuable underground minerals are available in Sriperumbudur, Thiruvallur and its surroundings areas;
- (b) if so, whether any research has been carried out during the recent years or in the past in the said areas to find out the mines and mineral deposits;
- (c) if so, the result obtained thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) No, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) during its course of mapping in Sriperumbudur, Thiruvallur and its surroundings has not met with any valuable underground minerals.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

[Translation]

### Development of Export Oriented Areas

2397. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government have received any comprehensive feasibility report from the Government of Bihar to accord necessary approval to develop the identified export oriented areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) There is no comprehensive feasibility report from the Govt. of Bihar to develop identified export oriented areas.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Insurance Claims

2398. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :  
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :  
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :  
SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise, number of cases of insurance claims pending for settlement in each insurance company at present alongwith the number of cases pending for more than one year, two years and three years;

(b) whether there is inordinate delay in settlement of cases by these companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of such cases, particularly in case of Karnataka and Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The required information is given in the enclosed Statement I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) Generally, there is no delay in settlement of claims. Claims are expeditiously settled on completion of all requirements by the insured.

(d) The industry has, from time to time, initiated several measures throughout the country including Karnataka and Maharashtra for expeditious settlement of claims. These include system of inhouse survey of claims upto Rs. 20,000/-, settlement through Lok Adalats and Jald Rahat Yojna, simplification and standardisation of claims settlement procedures, setting up of permanent claims review Committees at regional offices, etc.

#### Statement-I

Sl. No.	Region and States	Number of claims pending as on 31.12.1999			
		National	New	Oriental	United
1	2	3	4	5	6
			India		India

#### 1. Northern Region

A. Chandigarh	1548	12483	801		
B. Himachal Pradesh	412	1342	1552		7784
C. Jammu & Kashmir	616	682	4034		
D. Delhi	24565	16982	22727		7288
E. Uttar Pradesh	26201	11979	17527		8590
F. Rajasthan	4321	9313	8797		6835
G. Haryana	1964	3982	5607		
H. Punjab	8094	6974	4436		5393

#### 2. Eastern Region

A. Andaman & Nico.	-	-	-		
B. Orissa	5031	9586	9582		9204
C. Sikkim	61	110	-		
D. West Bengal	7935	22652	8715		
E. Bihar	4024	4795	9475		1898
F. Arunachal Pradesh	86	-	398		
G. Assam	3428	3974	4292		
H. Manipur	306	93	162		
I. Meghalaya	337	133	487		3551
J. Mizoram	190	87	140		
K. Nagaland	320	72	245		
L. Tripura	607	46	193		

#### 3. Southern Region

A. Andhra Pradesh	12449	11524	15692		17998
B. Karnataka	14135	20773	29960		12091
C. Kerala	26526	22632	37153		23695



1	2	3	4	5	6
D. Pondicherry	1498	786	3894		
E. Tamil Nadu	17621	22850	29452	33041	

#### 4. Western Region

A. Goa	1014	1417	1167		
B. Maharashtra	19073	58733	29514	23523	
C. Gujarat	9748	39404	25174		
D. Daman	-	-	483	27994	
E. Diu	-	-	292		
F. Madhya Pradesh	14691	14293	12170	5765	
Total	206801	297697	284121	194650	

#### Statement-II

*Companywise and agewise pendency of claims as on 31.3.1999*

Name of the Company	1 to 3 years	Above 3 years
National Insurance Co. Ltd.	48,518	39,285
New India Assurance Co. Ltd.	55,298	53,496
Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.	63,285	73,457
United India Insurance Co. Ltd. I	35,074	33,719

#### Katihar Jute Mill

2399. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the R.B.H.M. Jute mill of Katihar has been closed since 02.11.99 due to lack of supply of raw jute;

(b) whether J.C.I. has stopped supply of raw jute to jute mills because guarantee related papers were not given to it by the Textiles Ministry;

(c) whether about three thousand workers have become jobless due to closure of jute mills and they are on the verge of starvation;

(d) whether the Government propose to restart the closed jute mills without delay by supplying raw jute through the J.C.I.;

(e) if so, the time by which it would be done and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government propose to provide autonomous management to RBHM jute mills; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. The production work in R.B.H.M. Jute Mill in Katihar, has temporarily stopped since 28.10.99 on account of stoppage of supply of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India in view of non-payment of arrear dues of raw jute by NJMC. The Government is taking various measures to restart production in the mill by procuring raw jute under a buy-back arrangement with STC. Efforts are also being made to run the NJMC mills on conversion basis. No workers have been deprived of their jobs due to the stoppage of work as Government is providing funds for payment of salary and wages to the regular employees and workers of the mill.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

#### Foreign Companies in India

2400. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the existing rules for making investment in India in collaboration with a foreign company;

(b) whether the Government are aware of violation of these rules in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of last two years in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Government in its commitment towards economic reforms, have announced the new Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy thereby placing all items/activities under the automatic route for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Non-Resident Indians (NRI) and Overseas Corporate Body (OCB) investment except the following :

1. All proposals that require an Industrial Licence which include (i) the item requiring an Industrial Licence under the Industries (Development and

Regulation) Act, 1951; (ii) foreign investment being more than 24% in the equity capital of units manufacturing items reserved for small scale industries; and (iii) all items which require an Industrial Licence in terms of the locational policy notified by Government under the New Industrial Policy of 1991.

2. All proposals in which the foreign collaborator has a previous venture/tie-up in India. The modalities prescribed in Press Note No.18 dated 14.12.1998 of 1998 series, shall apply in such cases.
3. All proposals relating to acquisition of shares in an existing Indian company in favour of a foreign/NRI/OCB investor.
4. All proposals falling outside notified sectoral policy/caps or under sectors in which FDI is not permitted and/or whenever any investor chooses to make an application to the FIPB and not to avail of the automatic route.

All proposals for investment in public sector units as also for EOU/EPZ/EHTP/STP units would qualify for automatic route subject to above parameters.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is approved under two routes :- (i) automatic route and (ii) FIPB/Government route. In so far as automatic route is concerned as per existing policy, the application has to file the requisite documents with RBI within 30 days from the date of receipt of inward remittance. RBI on scrutiny of such proposals, if observes any violation of automatic route under existing FDI policy, refers such cases for consideration of FIPB/Government. Proposals not falling under automatic route are considered by FIPB as per Sectoral Guidelines for FDI.

(b) to (d) During last two years, 3 cases of violations of terms and conditions of FC approvals issued by the Government have come to notice and these are being processed for further action in consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

#### **Hindustan Paper Corporation**

2401.SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Paper Corporation has been incurring heavy losses due to lapse of proper stock reconciliation and quality of paper produced by Cocher

and Nagaon Mills of HPC is being sold to their Agents at half rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to conduct enquiry in the matter by CBI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) Due to certain irregularities in Delhi Regional Office and Chandigarh Depot, the company has detected loss of about Rs. 8.2 crores. All efforts are being put in to recover the dues from the dealers.

Paper is sold in market as per the list price fixed by the pricing committee of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. from time to time.

(c) and (d) The Corporation has taken action to suspend five officials from Marketing and Finance Deptt. of Delhi regional marketing office and depot incharges of Delhi and Chandigarh. The Executive Director (Marketing) is also under suspension.

The Hindustan Paper Corporation has filed criminal proceedings with CBI.

#### **Norms for Private Broadcaster**

2402.SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to offer uplinking facilities to private Broadcaster;

(b) if so, whether the Government evolved Broadcasting norms for private Broadcasters;

(c) if so, whether the Govt. have started receiving proposals in this regard and the number of proposals are under consideration and the details thereof;

(d) the role of the Government in their operations apart from providing satellite facilities; and

(e) the details of the income accrues to the Govt. by way of royalty for uplinking facility to private TV Channels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER

OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Government have already permitted private broadcasters having Indian management control and a minimum 80% Indian equity to uplink their satellite TV Channels from India.

(b) Private satellite broadcasters uplinking from India are required to follow certain norms which, amongst others, include the Following :

1. Compliance with the Programme and Advertisement Code of Doordarshan.
2. Compliance with security related conditions.
3. Retention of minimum 80% Indian Equity Holding and Indian Management Control.
4. Conformity with the provisions of Intersystem Co-ordination Agreement between India and INTELSAT.
5. Provision of necessary monitoring facility by the uplinking Company.

(c) The Govt. have already permitted the following companies to uplink from India.

1. M/s Ushodaya Enterprises Ltd., Hyderabad.
2. M/s Sumangali Publications Pvt. Ltd. Chennai.
3. M/s Gemini TV, Chennai.
4. M/s Uday TV, Chennai.
5. M/s Asianet, Chennai.
6. M/s Vijaya TV, Chennai.
7. M/s TV International, Delhi.
8. M/s Jain Studio Ltd., Delhi

The following proposals for regular uplinking from India are under process in the Ministry :

1. M/s Movis Satcom Pvt. Ltd., Chennai.
2. M/s Technology Media Group Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.
3. M/s Broadcast Worldwide Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

(d) The Govt. would have to ensure compliance with various codes/norms/conditions by the broadcasters as indicated in (b) above.

(e) Details of annual income which are accruing or likely to accrue to the Govt. and VSNL are as follows :

1. Annual licence fee and Royalty charges by WPC, Department of Tele-communication	Rs. 1.4 crores.
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2. Uplinking facility charges by VSNL	Rs. 12.0 crores.
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Total	Rs. 13.4 crores.
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#### Housing Loan

2403.SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise amount as housing loan disbursed by various banks during the last three years and under the Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme;

(b) whether the Government propose to make changes or provide more relaxations in the existing rules for providing loans through banks for housing development; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) As per the information furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, the State-wise outstanding Housing Loans of Scheduled Commercial Banks to various States under Priority Sector including those under the Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme (GJRHF) and the total housing loans advanced by Scheduled Commercial Banks under GJRHF Scheme as reported by National Housing Bank for the last three years (as available) are given in Statement I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) Government has taken various steps from time to time to boost housing sector development. Even in the Budget Speech for the year 2000-2001 some announcements have been made in this regard. Some of the steps taken are :-

- Each Bank should compute its share of the housing finance allocation at 3 percent of its incremental deposits. There is no objection to banks exceeding this level having regard to their resources position.

- Under Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme the target of dwelling units has been raised from 1.25 lakhs to 1.50 lakhs.
- For families with an annual income of below Rs. 32,000 per annum, assistance will be provided for construction of 1 lakh houses under credit-cum-subsidy Scheme.
- To further improve the availability of housing finance in rural areas, Government have decided to provide equity support of Rs. 350 crore to HUDCO during the Ninth Plan period. Of this, Rs.200 crore have already been released and it is proposed to release a further amount of Rs. 100 crore in the next year.
- The cooperative sector and voluntary agencies etc. will support the construction of another 1.5 lakh houses.
- The rebates of tax under section 88 would now be available for repayment of housing loan up to Rs. 20 000 per year as against Rs. 10,000 per year earlier.
- The exemption from tax on long term capital gains has been allowed for investment in a new house even if the taxpayer already owns a house.
- Under priority Sector the housing loan limit has been raised from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs.

#### Statement-I

*State-wise outstanding balances of Housing Advances  
by Scheduled Commercial Banks under priority  
Sector as on 31st March*

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Name of States/UTs	1996 Amount	1997 Amount	1998 Amount
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar	8	11	19
Andhra Pradesh	23197	31362	32008
Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	1
Assam	179	338	487

1	2	3	4
Bihar	1329	1992	1745
Chandigarh	346	445	2095
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	7	13
Daman and Diu	0	2	19
Delhi	22981	54656	70228
Goa	504	558	863
Gujarat	8864	9247	16513
Haryana	1793	5120	3477
Himachal Pradesh	537	600	783
Jammu and Kashmir	277	721	680
Karnataka	24153	33898	53165
Kerala	13819	21780	36285
Lakshdweep	1	1	1
Madhya Pradesh	3095	3844	6288
Maharashtra	28129	67783	121992
Manipur	16	43	47
Meghalaya	36	47	109
Mizoram	2	2	27
Nagaland	6	9	7
Orissa	6364	11659	5137
Pondicherry	85	163	71
Punjab	2737	5258	5346
Rajasthan	6975	12440	23103
Sikkim	1	1	56
Tamil Nadu	10291	18648	25528
Tripura	29	12	17
Uttar Pradesh	21762	26486	24832
West Bengal	2766	8903	13532
<b>Total</b>	<b>180283</b>	<b>316037</b>	<b>444474</b>

**Statement-II**

*State-wise housing loans of Public Sector Banks under Golden Jubilee Rural Housing Finance Scheme during three years*

(Rs. In Crores)

States/UTs	1997-98 Amount	1998-99 Amount	1999-2000 Amount
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	23.71	82.76	51.23
Assam	0.10	0.60	0.83
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0
Bihar	0.67	1.95	0.93
Goa	1.07	2.23	3.54
Gujarat	2.79	11.16	14.43
Haryana	0.57	2.80	15.34
Himachal Pradesh	0.27	10.76	17.67
Jammu & Kashmir	0.0046	0.14	0.9
Karnataka	20.42	61.90	51.45
Kerala	13.46	69.54	65.17
Madhya Pradesh	4.78	12.34	6.72
Maharashtra	9.01	24.24	12.81
Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.12	0.07
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	2.02	8.11	5.23
Punjab	13.30	31.24	19.32
Rajasthan	4.84	18.12	9.28
Sikkim	0.00	0.82	0.09
Tamilnadu	7.79	21.36	37.23
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	6.76	9.31	6.686
West Bengal	6.38	24.06	20.05

1	2	3	4
Andaman & Nicobar	0.00	0.42	0.008
Chandigarh	0.36	2.37	5.61
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.12	0.00
Delhi	0.00	0.41	0.05
Diu & Daman	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0.03	4.21	0.52
Total	118.86	401.09	345.16

**Export of Sugar to Pakistan**

2404. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :  
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to export surplus sugar to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government does not undertake export of sugar. Export of sugar can be undertaken by individuals/parties as per their commercial judgement after obtaining Registration-cum-Allocation Certificate (RCAC) from APEDA, within the quantitative ceiling prescribed by the Government. Apart from 30,000 MTs fixed for export against preferential quota to the U.S.A. and E.U., Government have fixed a quantitative ceiling of 25,000 Mts for export of value-added sugar in consumer packs upto 2 kgs. for the licensing year 1999-2000. Anyone can export this value-added sugar to any destination in the world including Pakistan.

**Rehabilitation of Closed Public Sector Undertakings Employees**

2405. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY :  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of closed Public Sector Undertakings have been rehabilitated/being rehabilitated;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of employees rehabilitated, PSU-wise; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to train surplus workers in different trades like electricians, plumbers, drivers, etc. for their proper placement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) Closure of an industrial undertaking is made under the Industrial Dispute Act and there is no provision for rehabilitation under the Act. However, under the National Renewal Fund (NRF), assistance is being provided for training/retraining of workers rationalised from the organised sector including PSEs. According to the reports available, Employees Assistance Centres set up with NRF at different locations have covered 99,381 workers upto 31.1.2000; workers surveyed - 99,381; counseled - 59,483; retrained, 41,088; redeployed - 12,985.

[Translation]

#### Tea Producing States

2406.SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the tea producing States in the country;

(b) the quantum of tea produced in each State during the last three years;

(c) whether the production of tea has fallen during this period; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The traditional tea producing States in the country are Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Tea is, however, produced in small quantities in some other States like Karnataka, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh etc. Production of tea during the last three years in the traditional tea producing States is as follows:

(Figures in M.Kgs.)

Name of the States	1999*	1998	1997
1	2	3	4
Assam	414.13	460.78	425.43

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	180.21	197.71	169.95
Tamil Nadu	128.09	125.08	130.59
Kerala	67.79	70.62	69.64
Other States	15.39	16.21	15.00
All India	805.61	870.40	810.61

(\*estimated)

Source : Tea Board

(c) and (d) Production of tea registered substantial increase during 1997 and 1998 over the previous years. However, during the year 1999 production of tea registered an estimated decline of 64.79 Mn.Kgs over the previous year mainly due to severe drought during the first quarter of 1999 followed by floods in the later part of the year in some of the tea growing areas.

[English]

#### Export Zones

2407.DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up export Zones centres to export agricultural produce with a view to developing agriculture and also earning foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the details of locations, particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up exclusive export Zone centres to export agricultural produce. It was decided in 1992 not to set up any new Export Processing Zones under Government of India. However, Export Processing Zones can be established by State Governments or in joint/private sector.

[Translation]

#### Jobs to Displaced Persons in Lime Stone Mines of Bihar

2408.SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that about 200 displaced persons have not been provided jobs so

far in Bhawanathpur lime stone mines located in Gadhwā district of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether there is a policy of the Government to provide jobs to the displaced persons;

(c) if so, the reasons for not providing jobs to those displaced persons, till date; and

(d) the time by which jobs are likely to be provided to the families of displaced persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) As per information furnished by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), (a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Steel), in Bhawanathpur limestone mines of SAIL, as agreed between the State Government of Bihar and the then Bokaro Steel Limited, now a unit of SAIL, at the time of starting of Bhawanathpur mines; employment was given to 550 persons whose homestead and land was acquired for these limestone mines and that there is no pending case of any displaced person who has not been given employment

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Export of Brass Materials

2409.CH. TEJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of brass materials exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period. and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of brass materials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The total quantity of brass artwares exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years is as under

Year	Rs. in crores	In US \$ million
1996-97	1024.89	288.78
1997-98	1191.79	320.63
1998-99	1199.16 (Provisional)	285.02 (Provisional)

(c) The steps taken by the government to boost the export of brass artwares include sponsoring of sales-cum-study team abroad; participation in international fairs and exhibitions; organisation of buyer-seller's meets; overseas publicity and publication of catalogues; conducting of seminars and workshop; setting up of the national level design centre at Moradabad and New Delhi and holding of Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair as an annual feature.

#### Powerloom Products

2410.SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the powerloom producers at Tirpur, Erode, Pallam in South India are not giving Meterage stamping on the Thans;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to enforce the law on the subject indicating the name of the producer and date of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The finished fabric manufactured by Powerloom sector is required to contain the markings prescribed under the Textiles (Consumer Protection) Regulation, 1988 which is applicable, inter-alia, to fabric made on powerlooms. However, as per clause 4(e) of the Regulation, the loom stage fabric i.e. grey fabric manufactured on powerlooms - i.e. unclandered grey cloth before carrying out any processing, is exempted from stamping of prescribed markings.

No specific complaints have been received in the Textile Commissioners' Office that powerloom units at Tirpur, Erode and Pallam are not stamping the requisite markings on finished fabric.

Surprise/test checks are conducted from time to time in the major cloth markets. Cloth is seized where contraventions of the said Regulation are found and cases are registered. Also, Consumer awareness programmes are conducted so that consumers are aware of the regulations and their rights.

#### Export/Import

2411.SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the export-import trend of the country during the last six months;

(b) the main leading export commodities and the amount of export made of these during the above period; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of different commodities and particularly of gem, jewellery and textiles during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics provisional data, exports during April-January, 2000 has been valued at US \$ 30221.41 million registering a growth of 11.32% over the same period last year. Imports for this period were valued at US \$ 38142.09 million registering a 9.05% growth over the same period of last year.

(b) As per the provisional April-November, 1999 data, details for which are available, the main items of exports and their value is as under :

(US \$ Million)	
Items	April-Nov. 1999
Plantations	501
Agri and allied products	2230
Marine products	771
Ores and Minerals	514
Leather and manufactures	1028
Gems and Jewellery	4761
Sports goods	46
Chemicals and related products	2969
Engineering goods	2958
Electronic hardware	384
Textiles	5814
Handicrafts	497
Carpets	408

(c) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and regions.

Some of the important incentives announced for the Gem and Jewellery sector include (i) permission to Export Oriented Units (EOUs)/Export Processing Zone units (EPZs) to import plain Gold, Platinum and Silver Jewellery for repairs/remake and export subject to a minimum NFEP of 7.5%. In such cases of export, wastage of 2% may be permitted, (ii) permission to foreign buyers for personal carriage of gems and jewellery from all EOUs and EPZs units and also from units located in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai, (iii) permission for duty free import of consumables upto 1% of the Free on Board (FOB) value of the export of the preceding year under the replenishment licences. Some of the measures to promote textiles exports are the following (i) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has been made operational with effect from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector, (ii) The New Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy for the period 2000-2004 has been announced recently to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports. (iii) Exports of cotton yarn by Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/Export Promotion Zone (EPZ)/EPCG units has been liberalised.

#### Licenses to Distilleries

2412.SHRI M.O.H. FAROOK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licenses have been given to distilleries during the last three years in Pondicherry;

(b) the number of beneficiaries and their respective production; and

(c) the criteria adopted for grant of such licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No Letter of Intent for creation of fresh capacity of potable alcohol including Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) has been issued since September 1994 of Intent is initially valid for three years, during which it is required to be converted into industrial Licence on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned in the letter of intent. However no letter of intent of potable alcohol including IMFL has been converted into industrial licence during last three years in the State of Pondicherry.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Export of Leather and Granite

2413.SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :



(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a huge demand for Leather products and Granite from India in the International Market specially in Japan and Eastern Countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in view of this the Government propose to export Granite and Leather products from the country specifically from the Erode district of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of these items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The demand for leather and leather products especially in Japan and Eastern Countries is negligible as compared to the total demand in the International Market. Granite is being exported from India to Japan and Singapore in large quantities whereas in other Eastern countries the demand is negligible. The details of exports of leather, leather products and granite to Japan and Eastern countries is given in the statement indicating the value of the exports and % age share of the total product specific exports from India.

(c) and (d) The Government have taken a number of steps to increase export of leather, leather products and granite from India. Leather Industry in Erode District is mainly in the tanning sector and which is used for exporters of value added products.

Govt. of India and Council for Leather Exports have initiated a number of steps including Market Development strategy, simplify Annual Advance Licensing Scheme to facilitate the exporters in availing the duty exemption benefit to import the required inputs for their production and extension of Zero duty facility under Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme for import of capital goods for leather and leather products industry. Tannery Modernization Fund has been recently created to help upgradation of technology alongwith product development in the tannery sector. To provide competitive edge to Indian exports, the import duty on most of the essential inputs has also been rationalized.

The Government of India have identified and declared "granite" as a "thrust area" and as such initiated necessary steps for boosting hassle-free export of granite. Mining including granite mining and development is under the purview of State Governments. As regards leasing, royalty, dead rent etc., each State practises a different policy. However, Department of Commerce had organised a State

Mines Ministers Conference in November 1997 to resolve the various issues connected with development of granite industry. Department of Mines have also notified rules for systematic development, scientific mining and conservation of granite through out India.

#### Statement

##### Exports from India

(Rs. in Crores)

Country	1998-99		1997-98	
	Leather & Leather products	% share	Granite	%
Japan	3.12	0.45%	87.97	9.18
Malaysia	1.48	0.21%	10.72	1.12
Thailand	0.65	0.09%	6.64	0.69
Singapore	1.45	0.21%	49.36	5.15

Source : DGCIS

Source : CAPEXIL

Total Export of Leather and Leather products from India (1998-99) Rs. 6955.77 Crores. Total exports of Granite from India (1997-98) Rs. 957.74 Crores.

#### Currency Distribution

2414. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has appointed an international consultancy firm to streamline the currency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the compensation to be paid to the said consultancy firm;

(d) whether any Memorandum of Agreement has been signed with this consultancy firm; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) The Reserve Bank of India has engaged an Indian Consultancy firm, viz., M/s. Arthur Andersen (India) Pvt. Ltd. to review the existing system of distribution of notes and coins through the mechanism of currency chests and come out

with an implementable plan of distribution outside the currency chest mechanism to enable the bank to minimise the response time if need be by enlarging the outlet network. As per the agreement with the Consultant, RBI is to pay a total of Rs. 20 lakhs to the consultancy firm. The firm is to submit their report within a period of 18 weeks.

### Improvement of Handicrafts Sector

2415. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government have any new proposal to improve the production of Indian handicrafts, especially made of bio-degradable materials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to enlarge and improve the production of Indian handicrafts, especially made of bio-degradable materials, the Government is implementing schemes of training and design and technical development. Moreover with the assistance of UNDP, 20 Common Facility Centres are proposed to be set up in cane and bamboo crafts in the States of North - East and Kerala. Six Crafts Development Centres in Jute crafts have already been set up in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

[Translation]

### Economic Development of the Country

2416. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether Non-Resident Indians and the nationals of Indian origin who settled down abroad have large reserves of intellectuals management and entrepreneurship resources;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any plan for the utilization of above reserves for the economic development of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) In order to tap large reserves of intellectual, management and entrepreneurship resources of the Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and the nationals of Indian origin who settled down

abroad, Government of India has encouraged them to participate in the development of the Indian economy through foreign investment route. Policies and Procedures governing Foreign Direct Investment/NRI investments are streamlined/simplified from time to time to create a more favourable investment environment for NRI. Presently, NRIs are allowed (i) automatic approval up to 100% in the high priority industries, (ii) higher Foreign Direct Investment limits in sectors having sectoral caps, such as Air-taxi operations and private sector banks, (iii) investment up to 100% in the Housing and Real Estate Sector, which is not otherwise open for FDI and (iv) investment in Indian stock market subject to an individual limit of 5% and cumulative limit of 10%, which will be exclusive and separate from Foreign Institutional Investor (FII) investment ceilings to avoid crowding out of NRIs by FIIs. In addition, Government have also attracted resources from the NRIs through special deposit schemes.

The salient schemes are as under :

#### 1. Direct Investment

- (a) 100% investment, with repatriation benefit in (i) areas notified by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion for automatic approval for FDI including NRI investments; (ii) trading companies; (iii) 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs), units in Free Trade Zones (FTZ)/Export Processing Zones (EPZs), Software Technology Parks (STPs), Electronic Hardware Technology Parks (EHTPs); (iv) housing and real estate development sector; (v) air taxi operation; (vi) sick industrial units.
- (b) NRIs can invest up to 40% of the paid up capital in private banks.
- (c) NRIs are permitted to subscribe to new issues of equity shares/convertible debentures of new or existing companies (private and public limited) in the fields of finance, hire purchase, leasing, trading or other services (except agriculture/plantation activities), and establishment of schools/colleges in India up to 24%.
- (d) Other investments with repatriation benefits include (i) investment in domestic mutual funds; (ii) investment in bonds issued by public sector undertakings; (iii) shares of public sector enterprises; (iv) deposits with companies; (v) investments in securities/shares.

- (e) Investment without repatriation benefits include
- 100% equity permissible in proprietary/partnership concerns engaged in industrial/trading/commercial activities (except agricultural/plantation activities or real estate business);
  - 100% equity in shares/convertible debentures of Indian companies engaged in industrial/trading/commercial activities (except agricultural/plantation activities or real estate business).

## 2. Portfolio Investment

- (a) Investment limit is 5%. Aggregate limit is 10% (this can be enhanced to 24% by a General Body Resolution of the company). This ceiling is separate from the ceiling applicable to foreign institutional investors.
- (b) Investment in unlisted companies is permitted.

## 3. Bank Accounts

NRIs are permitted to open the following types of bank accounts:

- Non-Resident (External) Rupee Accounts;
- Ordinary Non-Resident (Non-Repatriable) Rupee Accounts;
- Non-Resident (Non-Repatriable) Rupee Deposit Accounts;
- Foreign Currency (Non-Resident) Accounts (Banks);
- Non-Resident (Special) Rupee Accounts

## Pending Taxes

2417.SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- the amount of income tax, estate tax and other commercial taxes outstanding against country's first 100 industrial/commercial units since 1998-99, till date;
- the outstanding amount against the above mentioned units for the last 5, 10, 15 years, separately;
- the extent of amount recovered during each of the last three years; and
- the reasons for not recovering the rest of the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The

amount of income tax and corporation tax outstanding against the country's first 100 defaulting industrial/commercial units as on 31.3.1999 and 30.9.1999 is Rs. 9254.07 crore and Rs. 9088.88 crore, respectively. Estate duty has been abolished vide Finance Act, 1985.

(b) and (c) The amount of income tax and corporation tax outstanding against the above mentioned units as on 31.3.1997 is estimated to be Rs. 4564.40 crore. The details of amounts outstanding and the recoveries made in each year, are not maintained.

(d) The reasons for not recovering the full outstanding amount include, cases getting locked up in appeals or getting stayed by appellate authorities and courts, and applications being filed before the Settlement Commission or the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, which does not allow initiation of recovery proceedings except as per the directions of the Commission, or till the matters are finalised by the Board.

[English]

## Indo-Russian Trade regarding Tobacco

2418.SHRI B.V.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- whether Russia has agreed to purchase Indian tobacco during the recent Indo-Russian trade talks held in Delhi, in January, 2000;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the other decisions taken for diversifying and expanding bilateral trade in hi-tech items?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) During the 6th Session of Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation (WGTEC) Govt. of India requested the Russian side to allocate sufficient rupee funds to Russian cigarette factories on credit terms to enable them to purchase Indian tobacco. The Russian side agreed to consider the proposal expeditiously. It was also agreed that an Indian delegation would visit Russia shortly to pursue the matter and to explore opportunities for greater cooperation between the tobacco industries of the two countries.

During this Session both sides agreed to take necessary steps for diversification of bilateral trade especially in high quality and hi-tech items. The relaxation of value addition norms by Govt. of India for goods

exported under the rupee debt repayment regime has created a favourable environment for export of hi-tech items from India.

[Translation]

#### Allocation of Funds to Bihar

2419.SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount allocated by the Union Government to the Bihar Government for various schemes during the last two years;

(b) whether the said amount has been utilized by the Bihar Government; and

(c) if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Central assistance for State Plans allocated by Planning Commission is released to the States in the shape of block loans and block grants. The releases are made in monthly instalments subject to adjustment on the basis of expenditure figures furnished by the State Governments. However, State Governments are accountable to their State Legislatures for proper utilisation of funds. Audit reports are also prepared by the CAG of India. A statement indicating allocation and release of plan assistance by the Ministry of Finance to the Government of Bihar during the last two years (1997-98 and 1998-99) is enclosed.

#### Statement

##### Allocation and Release of Plan Assistance to Bihar

(Rs. in crore)

Items	1997-98		1998-99	
	Allocated	Released	Allocated	Released
1	2	3	4	5
(i) Normal Central Assistance	1100.82	835.79	1191.76	1309.55*
(ii) Addl. Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Services & Slum Development	388.52	382.25	407.57	407.57
(iii) Addl. Central Assistance for Externally Aided Projects (EAPs)	238.67	132.26	236.14	112.78
(iv) Central Loan Assistance for Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP)	50.00	14.04	60.00	47.82
(v) Assistance for infrastructure affected by floods			75.00	75.00

\*Includes arrears for 1997-98.

[English]

#### Pending Application of Licences

2420.SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of applications of industrial licences received during the last three years;

(b) the number out of these applications disposed of during the said period;

(c) the number of applications pending with the Government; and

(d) the reasons for delay in clearing the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) 739 industrial licence applications were received during last three years under the I(D&R) Act, 1951. Out of these, 677 applications have been disposed of and 62 applications are under consideration of the Government for issue of letter of intent.

(d) All possible steps are taken for the speedy disposal of applications. Actual disposal of applications depends on the sectoral policy of the concerned administrative Ministry and their recommendations in specific cases together with the recommendations of the concerned State Government.

[Translation]

#### Revision of Pay Scale

2421. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether revision of Pay Scales of the staff and officers of Coal India Limited is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the time since when the pay revision has been enforced; and

(d) the time by which the pay revision is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The pay scales of staff is under negotiations with Central Trade Unions participating in the Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry (JBCCI). As regards pay revision of officers, the same is under process in Coal India Limited (CIL).

(c) Does not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above.

(d) As soon as the National Coal Wage agreement-VI in respect of staff and workers is finalised by JBCCI and the pay revision in respect of officers executives is finalised by CIL, the same will be implemented.

[English]

#### Bilateral Talks with Russia

2422. DR. (SHRIMATI.) C. SUGUNA KUMARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have signed a trade protocol in Delhi during January, 2000 during bilateral talks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to utilise Russian Rupee Debt Funds ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) A Protocol was signed during the Sixth Session of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation, held at New Delhi in January, 2000, under the aegis of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological and Cultural Co-operation. Various bilateral trade related issues including review of implementation of the decisions of the earlier meeting, current status of trade and economic cooperation and steps for further development, issues relating to cooperation in Transport, Banking and Financial and Agricultural sectors, etc. were discussed in the Protocol.

(c) The utilisation of the Russian rupee debt fund is governed by the Arrangement between the Bank For Foreign Economic Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Reserve Bank of India for implementing the provisions of the letters dated 28-29 January, 1993 and 6 September, 1993 exchanged between the Government of the Russian Federation and the government of the Republic of India. As per this arrangement, the funds related to the payment of the Russian rupee debt are to be utilized for purchase of goods and services from India. The bulk of India's exports to Russia are on this account.

#### Film Industry

2423. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI K.E. KRISHANAMURTHY :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether film industry is facing a major threat from video piracy; and

(b) if so, the action taken to check menace and to save film industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The film industry has from time to time been representing against the losses suffered due to video/cable piracy. The responsibility for enforcing the Copyright Act 1957 rests with the police authorities under the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Copyright Act has been amended to bring it in consonance with the development in the modern technology and making the penal provisions more stringent. During the last few years the Central Government has taken various steps to improve the enforcement of the

Act. These measures include setting up of a Copyright Advisory Council for reviewing the progress of the enforcement of the Act periodically and to advise the Govt. regarding measures for improving the enforcement of the Act, arranging training/seminars for the police officers and impressing upon the State Govt. to create special cells to deal with Copyright offences; to designate nodal points with which professional or industry associations could liaise. Most of the State Governments have set up special cells.

The Copyright (Amendment) Act, 1994 inter alia provides for, setting up of a separate Society for Copyright Regulation of Indian Producers of Films and Television (SCRIPT). This society has set up special wings to fight piracy and work in close interaction with the police.

[Translation]

#### **Subsidy on Wheat**

2424. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wheat produced indigenously is not being sold in the international market due to its high price;

(b) if so the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government propose to give subsidy on wheat to sell it in the international market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The export of wheat and similar commodities depend upon international demand and domestic ability to supply, varieties traded, consumer preferences and other terms of trade-factors which Government takes note of.

(c) No proposal has matured in this regard.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Evasion of Tax**

2425. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the traders are using duplicate bills in order to conceal the income and payment of taxes to the Government that are legitimately due to them;

(b) if so, whether non-issue of bills or use of duplicate bills help in concealing the real income and payment of income-tax and other taxes; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check the evasion of taxes and concealment of income ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) There have been instances of non-issue of bills or use of duplicate bills by the traders. This results in concealment of real income and consequent evasion of income tax.

(c) The Government have been taking necessary legislative, fiscal and administrative measures from time to time to check concealment of income and evasion of taxes.

#### **Excise Evasion by Beedi Manufacturers**

2426. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are losing Rs. 1 crore per day on Central excise duty on beedi as manufacturers are evading by fictitious figures;

(b) whether production in inorganised sector workers is never shown and sold in local market; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase revenue on beedis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, Evasion of Central Excise duty to the tune of Rs. 1 crore per day by beedi manufacturers by fictitious figures have not come to the notice of the Government. Unbranded beedies, other than paper rolled beedies, manufactured without aid of power attract nil rate of duty upto a quantity of Rs. 20 lakh in a financial year. Sale of such beedies in local markets does not amount to evasion or loss of revenue. Strict vigil is kept on other manufactures of beedies to prevent evasion of central excise duty.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Diamond Mines in Orissa**

2427. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are abandoned and old British worked Diamond Mines in various districts of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details of present status of such mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate organisation under the Department of Mines, there are no records available in respect of any abandoned old British worked Diamond Mines in Orissa.

#### Export of Spices

2428.SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :  
SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of spices exported from India during each of the last three years;

(b) the names of these spices and the names of countries where these spices were exported along with the quantity thereof;

(c) the details of the export policy of the Government for the export of the spices;

(d) whether some spices are imported also; and

(e) if so, the names, quantity and value of the spices imported during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The total quantity and value of spices exported from India during the last 3 years is given below:

year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. crores)
1996-97	225294.65	1230.72
1997-98	242070.75	1460.82
1998-99*	231389.51	1758.02

\*Provisional

Source: Spices Board

The country-wise and item-wise details of exports are available in the monthly bulletin/annual numbers of the foreign trade statistics published by the DGCI&S, Calcutta, copies of which are supplied to the Parliament Library.

(c) As per the Export Policy of the Government, all spices are freely exportable.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The details of the quantity and value of spices imported during the last three years is given below:

Year	Imports	
	Qty. (tones)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1996-97	28997.32	9710.82
1997-98	35223.51	13182.82
1998-99*	67436.97	29358.25

\* Provisional

Source: Spices Board.

The item-wise details of imports during the last three years are available in the monthly bulletin/annual numbers of the foreign trade statistics published by the DGCI&S, Calcutta, copies of which are supplied to the Parliament Library.

[Translation]

#### Production of Handloom Cloth

2429.SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of handloom cloth produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise.

(b) the financial assistance provided by the Government for the promotion of handloom industry during the said period, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote handloom industry in the tribal areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Handloom Industry is decentralised in nature and upkeep of data regarding production of cloth (state-wise) in this sector is not maintained. The quantum of handloom cloth produced in the country during last three years is as follows:-

Year	Total Production (in million sq. mtrs.)
1996-97	7456
1997-98	7604
1998-99	6792

(b) The financial assistance provided by the Government for the promotion of handloom industry during last three years (state-wise) is annexed.

(c) Government is implementing the following schemes for the benefit of the Handloom Industry all over the country including tribal areas:-

1. Market Development Assistance Scheme.
2. Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme.
3. National/Mini Handloom Expo.
4. Crafts Melas, District level Fairs and Festivals.
5. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme.
6. Thrift Fund Scheme.
7. Group Insurance Scheme.
8. Health Package Scheme.
9. Project Package Scheme.
10. Research and Development Scheme.
11. Freelance Designer Scheme.
12. Decentralised Training Programme.
13. Supply of Yarn at Mill Gate Prices.

#### Statement

*Funds Released under various Schemes  
for the last three years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	100.66	28.90
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3056.17	1390.85	1205.56
3.	Assam	1200.44	1287.75	1405.56
4.	Bihar	97.22	93.80	28.33
5.	Gujarat	247.10	104.71	124.39
6.	Haryana	103.38	41.73	44.35
7.	Himachal Pradesh	147.61	118.14	104.37

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	135.69	371.30	74.25
9.	Karnataka	1279.77	996.65	318.95
10.	Kerala	452.61	855.32	967.55
11.	Madhya Pradesh	299.92	626.10	170.06
12.	Maharashtra	426.13	263.41	260.92
13.	Manipur	195.83	—	190.28
14.	Mizoram	0.50	20.00	23.60
15.	Nagaland	848.63	1242.44	134.49
16.	Orissa	776.83	456.45	466.21
17.	Pondicherry	21.68	1.76	28.53
18.	Punjab	29.35	35.22	147.89
19.	Rajasthan	161.94	202.62	44.34
20.	Tamil Nadu	3504.10	2765.52	2298.74
21.	Tripura	110.09	63.42	60.16
22.	Uttar Pradesh	801.02	760.60	713.50
23.	West Bengal	551.44	688.85	503.63
24.	Delhi	103.82	123.24	71.47
25.	Meghalaya	1.66	—	8.56
26.	Sikkim	—	18.80	100.00

#### Decontrol of Coal

2430. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decontrolled the price of different categories of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the price of coal has gone up as a result thereof;

(d) the expected additional amount earned so far by the coal producing companies as a result thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to decontrol the production of coal to create more competition in this sector, and



(f) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to fully decontrol the coal industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The prices of Coking Coal and A, B and C grades of non-cooking coal were deregulated since March

1996 and the prices of D grade of non-coking coal were deregulated since March, 1997. The full deregulation of prices of coal came into force with effect from 1st January, 2000.

(c) The extent to which the prices of coal fixed by Coal India Limited has gone up in terms of percentage over existing are given below, date-wise:-

1-4-96	Deregulated Coal	Grades	In all subsidiaries except Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL)	In WCL	In MCL
1	2	3	4	5	6
		A	20%	23%	15%
		B	18%	25%	13%
		C	15%	29%	10%
		Coking	20% - 25%	20% - 25%	20% - 25%
20-10-96		A	12%	0%	12%
		B	12%	0%	12%
		C	8%	0%	8%
		Coking	8% - 12%	8%	—
1-4-97	Deregulated Coal	Grades	In all subsidiaries except MCL	In MCL	
		D	29%	24%	
1-10-97	Deregulated Coal	Grades	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	Bharat Coking Coal Limited	
		A	5%	—	
		B	5%	—	
		C	5%	—	
		Coking	—	5%	
21-8-98	Deregulated Coal	Grades	In all subsidiaries except WCL	In WCL	
		A, B, C,	5%	4%	
		D	7%	6%	
		Coking 5% of Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) coal			

1	2	3	4	5	6
5-1-99	Deregulated Coal	In ECL West Bengal Mines		5% to 13%	
31-5-99	Deregulated Coal	Grades	In CCL	In Northern Coalfields Limited	
		A to D	5%	6%	
		Coking	4%	—	

(d) The expected additional amount earned so far by coal producing companies are as follows :-

1996-97	Rs. 1280 crores.
1997-98	Rs. 2200 crores.
1998-99	Rs. 2630 crores.
1999-2000 (expected)	Rs. 3100 crores.

(e) and (f) A proposal for involving private Indian companies to mine coal without the existing restriction of captive consumption is under consideration of the Government. For this purpose, amendments to the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 would be necessary.

[English]

#### Loan to Rajasthan by NABARD

2431. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of financial assistance extended by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to Rajasthan during each of the last three years, District-wise.

(b) the areas in which the investment have been made and the amount thereof;

(c) whether there is steady decrease in the loan disbursement from Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) NABARD, despite increase in funds every year;

(d) if so, reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the lending for Agriculture Development in rural areas from the corpus fund in RIDF set up in NABARD ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development provides refinance facilities to all commercial banks, cooperative banks and regional rural banks. The details of the short term credit limits sanctioned to State Cooperative Bank on behalf of the District Central Cooperative Banks in Rajasthan for the last three years are given in Statement-I. The details of the short term credit limits sanctioned to Regional Rural Banks in Rajasthan are given in Statement-II. The details of the District-wise disbursement of refinance under farm and non-farm sector under long term credit for the last three years are given in Statement-III. Details of the year-wise and district-wise disbursements made under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) in Rajasthan are given in Statement-IV.

(c) and (d) The loan disbursement under RIDF in Rajasthan were Rs. 68.52 crore in 1996-97 which had increased to Rs. 103.57 crore during 1998-99. Hence there has been no decrease in the disbursement.

(e) RIDF has been constituted mainly to assist the State Governments for completing their incomplete projects and for taking up new infrastructure projects in rural areas. The scope of projects which could be taken up under RIDF has been widened, repayment period has been increased from five to seven years and Panchayati Raj Institutions, Self-Help Groups (SHGs)/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have been included as eligible institutions for receiving loan. It is expected that when these projects are completed increased credit demand and higher level of economic activity in the rural areas would take place.

**Statement-I**

*District-wise details of short terms credit sanctioned by NABARD to Central Cooperative Banks in Rajasthan*

(Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of DCCB	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ajmer	895	1125	—
2.	Alwar	3280	3435	3459
3.	Banswara	600	900	900
4.	Barmer	545	350	100
5.	Bharatpur	2270	2420	2420
6.	Bhilwara	710	1200	1200
7.	Bikaner	655	735	885
8.	Bundi	1200	1190	1120
9.	Chittaurgarh	1100	1520	1530
10.	Churu	785	1170	1170
11.	Dungarpur	—	84	84
12.	Jaipur	2200	2380	2600
13.	Jaisalmer	190	190	—
14.	Jalore	1500	1680	—
15.	Jhalawad	1900	2200	2200
16.	Jhunjhunu	1375	1750	2000
17.	Jodhpur	1300	1450	1450
18.	Kota	—	2050	2050
19.	Nagpur	2200	2400	2880
20.	Pali	1600	1840	1840
21.	Sawai Madhopur	2375	3120	3500
22.	Sikar	1675	1750	2010
23.	Sirohi	260	440	440
24.	Sri Ganga Nagar	4250	4650	5347

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Tonk	1250	1480	1700
26.	Udaipur	1075	1600	—
Total		35170	43119	42565

**Statement-II**

*Details of the short term credit limits sanctioned by NABARD to Regional Rural Banks in Rajasthan*

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Regional Rural Bank	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Jaipur Nagaur Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jaipur	40.00	100.00	69.00
2.	Marwar Gramin Bank, Pali	525.00	800.00	800.00
3.	Shekhawati Gramin Bank Sikar	0.00	18.00	16.00
4.	Marudhar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Churu	3.00	42.00	24.00
5.	Alwar Bharatpur Gramin Bank, Bharatpur	115.00	250.00	180.00
6.	Aravali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sawai Madhopur	50.00	130.00	109.00
7.	Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Kota	175.00	275.00	209.00
8.	Thar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur	15.00	0.00	8.50
9.	Mewar Anchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur	2.40	0.00	2.00
10.	Bundi Chittorgarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bundi	150.00	225.00	190.00
11.	Bhilwara Ajmer Kshetriya Gramin, Bank Bhilwara	75.00	125.00	98.00
12.	Dungarpur Banaswara Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Dungarpur	40.00	125.00	65.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Sriganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Sri Ganga Nagar	250.00	400.00	330.00
14.	Bikaner Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Bikaner	22.00	50.00	45.00
Total		1462.40	2548.00	1945.50

Statement-III

*Details of the District-wise disbursement of refinance under farm and non-farm sector by NABARD under long term credit in Rajasthan*

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of District	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ajmer	822.46	955.88	1737.06
2.	Alwar	768.54	859.21	1148.99
3.	Banswara	479.25	383.92	427.72
4.	Bharatpur	1182.75	1315.24	1180.47
5.	Bikaner	853.20	1407.90	1360.22
6.	Chittaurgarh	1009.80	1085.23	1009.26
7.	Dausa	174.32	266.73	309.97
8.	Jhunjhunu	856.50	884.66	1577.58
9.	Jodhpur	670.18	897.17	1391.10
10.	Kota	1079.67	1129.27	1374.13
11.	Nagaur	884.32	1099.48	1441.17
12.	Pali	847.64	941.50	732.74
13.	Sriganganagar	946.59	975.78	1552.44
14.	Sikar	865.58	1016.83	1411.46
15.	Sirohi	691.81	722.89	753.44
16.	Sawai Madhopur	1216.85	1355.75	2245.78
17.	Udaipur	894.12	1060.01	1107.00
18.	Hanumangarh	872.15	639.02	802.46
19.	Baran	401.11	845.66	789.87

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Barmer	934.67	728.64	1015.68
21.	Bhilwara	1124.16	1109.87	1468.65
22.	Bundi	859.00	1167.68	1077.24
23.	Churu	745.12	957.25	1343.59
24.	Dholpur	493.78	364.34	589.32
25.	Dungarpur	366.17	466.81	623.85
26.	Jaipur	1108.49	1243.99	1815.05
27.	Jaisalmer	364.12	280.13	363.50
28.	Jalore	734.81	1014.55	967.18
29.	Jhalawar	750.42	1020.20	1114.86
30.	Rajsmand	118.17	236.53	111.42
31.	Tonk	982.92	1178.70	1336.81
Total		24098.67	27610.82	34240.01

Statement-IV

*Details of year-wise and district-wise disbursement made by NABARD under RIDF in Rajasthan*

(Rs. lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of District	1996	1997	1998	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ajmer	85.47	80.32	129.18	294.97
2.	Alwar	139.46	131.05	210.79	481.30
3.	Banswara	220.93	207.62	333.94	762.49
4.	Baran	764.78	718.70	1155.96	2639.43
5.	Barmer	43.86	41.22	66.30	131.39
6.	Bharatpur	86.70	81.48	131.05	288.22
7.	Bhilwara	190.44	178.97	287.65	657.26
8.	Bikaner	299.68	281.63	452.97	1034.28
9.	Bundi	247.38	232.46	373.92	853.77
10.	Chittorgarh	273.31	256.84	413.10	943.25
11.	Churu	166.04	156.03	250.97	573.03
12.	Dausa	111.58	104.86	168.66	385.09

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Dholpur	23.05	21.66	34.84	79.56
14.	Dungarpur	1251.17	1175.79	1691.15	4318.10
15.	Hanumangarh	9.99	9.39	15.10	34.47
16.	Jaipur	266.15	250.12	402.29	918.57
17.	Jaisalmer	82.92	77.93	125.34	286.19
18.	Jalore	142.18	133.61	214.90	490.70
19.	Jhalawar	167.48	157.39	253.14	578.01
20.	Jhunjhunu	15.27	14.35	23.08	52.70
21.	Jodhpur	100.94	94.86	152.57	348.37
22.	Karauli	55.71	52.35	84.20	192.26
23.	Kota	512.71	481.82	774.90	1769.48
24.	Nagaur	76.44	71.84	115.54	263.82
25.	Pali	220.99	207.66	334.03	762.70
26.	Raj Samand	238.33	223.97	360.24	822.54
27.	Sikar	84.48	79.39	127.69	291.56
28.	Sirohi	124.46	116.96	188.12	428.54
29.	Sawai Madhopur	49.97	46.98	75.54	172.47
30.	Sri Ganganagar	230.04	216.18	347.71	793.93
31.	Tonk	133.09	125.18	201.18	459.43
32.	Udaipur	436.94	410.62	880.44	1508.00
Total		6851.93	6439.21	10356.73	23647.87

[Translation]

#### Export of Coffee

2432. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the profit earned through export of coffee during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have formulated any policy to encourage the coffee industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) During the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99, the exports of coffee fetched foreign exchange equivalent to Rs. 1467 crores Rs. 1708 crores and Rs. 1752 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) To boost the production of coffee, the Government of India through the Coffee Board operates several Plan programmes and developmental activities aimed at intensive cultivation, replanting, quality improvement and water augmentation. Besides, the Coffee Board also provides necessary support in the form of (a) agricultural research, (b) extension, (c) arrangement of credit and finance and other necessary back up support like supply of seed coffee etc.

Further, for boosting export of coffee, the Coffee Board concentrates on targeted markets like USA, Japan Russia and Middle East Countries, etc. The Board also participates in select food fairs/exhibitions abroad, releases advertisements on unique features of Indian coffee in overseas trade journals, sponsors trade delegations/invites roasters' delegations from all target markets of India. To popularise Indian coffee they arrange service of Indian coffee abroad and distribute gift packets of Indian Coffee through our embassies on special occasions and festivals and publish and distribute literature on Indian coffee.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Import of Agricultural Products under OGL

2433. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether import of agricultural commodities have been allowed under Open General Licence;

(b) the details of commodities and quantity thereof during the current financial year (month-wise); and

(c) the effect of this import on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Agricultural commodities are classified under Chapters 1 to 24 of ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items. There are 1394 agricultural items listed in these chapters. Imports of 781 items out of these is freely allowed at present. The details of the commodities and the import policy thereof are

available in the book titled "ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items" and the notifications issued from time to time. Copies of the said book are also available in the Parliament Library.

(b) Item-wise data regarding imported quantity of all the commodities are compiled by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, and published in the book titled 'Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Vol. I-Imports'. The latest statistics are available only for the period upto February, '99.

(c) Domestic prices of Agricultural Commodities, like those of any other commodity, depend on a large number of factors having a bearing on the demand and supply of that commodity. Hence it may not be possible to precisely assess the effect of imports on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities. However import duties are adjusted suitably whenever any adverse impact of imports is noticed in respect of agricultural sector.

#### Heavy Engineering Corporation

2434. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stalemate between the Bihar State Electricity Board and Heavy Engineering Corporation regarding payment of arrears has since been resolved; and

(b) if not, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) No Sir. The matter is under discussions between the two parties with a view to resolving issues.

#### Intellectual Property

2435. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact effective anti-competition law to ensure equitable competition and fair trade practices and to avoid undesirable monopoly in exercise of intellectual property and patent rights;

(b) if so, the time by which the Government propose to appoint a committee of experts to study the technicalities involved in drafting a Bill;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) India has a general legislation namely, Monopoly and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 covering aspects of monopoly and restrictive trade practices. The Government has recently constituted a committee of experts with a view to examine this Act and to shift the focus of the law from curbing monopolies to promoting competition and to suggest a modern competition law in line with international developments to suit Indian conditions. The committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

Apart from this, the Patents Act, 1970 contains a provision, under Section 140, to cover aspects relating to avoidance of certain restrictive conditions in contractual licences. The Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999 also proposes to modify Sections 85, 95 and 140 to strengthen measures against anti-competitive practices.

[Translation]

#### Export of Semi-Finished Leather

2436. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed ban on the export of semi-finished leather whereas the import of such leather is permissible;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the employees of small scale leather industry are facing problems as a results thereof;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reconsider its decision;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the Export-Import Policy 1997-2002, export of all types of processed leather are under restricted category of export. However, certain categories of semi-processed leather like EI tanned has been allowed to export freely w.e.f. 13.1.2000 with export duty. Import of semi-finished leather is allowed freely.

(c) to (f) No such problem has come to the notice of the Government.

[English]

#### IMF Suggestion

2437. SHRI SURESH KARUP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has agreed to a financial system stability assessment by the IMF; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India has agreed to the joint IMF-World Bank Financial Sector Assessment Program (FSAP). Based on its report, the IMF, will prepare a short report, namely, Financial System Stability Assessment (FSSA) for its Board, which will focus on financial system issues of significance for reducing vulnerabilities including a summary version of detailed assessment of standards.

#### Funds by IDBI to Essar

2438. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report captioned "Essar default-burden set to fall on IDBI" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated January 31, 2000;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the IDBI has taken any steps to protect its interest in the Essar investment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported, with reference to the news report in the Indian Express of 31st January, 2000 referred to in part (a) of the question, that the matter of extending support to partly fund the refinancing of Floating Rate Notes raised by Essar Steel Limited (ESL) is under consideration with Financial Institutions. IDBI have further reported that it has taken necessary steps to safeguard its interests.

Decisions for extending financial assistance or restructuring of loans etc. are taken by the financial institutions concerned based on their considered commercial judgement and RBI guidelines on the subject.

#### Export of Knitted Fabrics

2439. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister to TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total exports of Knitted fabric, Yarn, Cotton and Clothes during 1998-89 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the export has been declining of these items during the above period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The export of textile items viz. garments, fabrics, made-ups and yarn were US\$ 10635.7 million during the year 1998-99 and have been US\$ 9043.7 million during the period April-January 2000. The exports of cotton amounted to Rs. 83.60 crores during the cotton year 1998-1999 (Oct-Sept) and have amounted to Rs. 6.68 crores during the period October-February, 1999-2000.

(b) and (c) While there had been considerable slow down in growth of textile exports during 1998-99, textile exports have registered an improved growth of 3.4% during the period April-January 1999-2000 as compared to the growth of 1.1% during the corresponding period of previous year. The decline in cotton exports is mainly attributed to the domestic prices being higher than the international prices.

(d) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to boost textile exports. Some of the important initiatives are as under:-

- (1) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme has been made operational with effect from 1-4-1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector.
- (2) The New Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy for the period 2000-2004 has been announced recently to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.
- (3) Non-Quota Entitlement (NQE) System for encouraging non-quota exports to quota and non-quota countries has been retained to boost exports in apparel sector-value added segment of Indian textiles.
- (4) Threshold limit under the Zero Duty Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme has

been reduced to Re. 1 crore in respect of certain prescribed textile machinery.

- (5) Exports of cotton yarn by Export Oriented Unit (EOU)/Export Promotion Zone (EPZ)/EPCG units has been liberalised.
- (6) Zero Duty import of certain categories of trimmings and embellishments has been allowed.
- (7) Technology Mission on Cotton has been launched with objectives of research, dissemination of technology to farmers, improvement in marketing infrastructure and modernisation of ginning and pressing factories to increase the productivity and quality of cotton.

#### FDI to Promote Industrial Growth

2440. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether FDI proved conducive to promote industrial growth since August, 1991;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the industries that have gained substantial growth with the FDI after August, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) Industrial growth depends on various co-related factors including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The growth rate during the period 1991-2000 is given below. No data on industrial growth with particular reference to FDI is maintained because FDI is viewed as a supplement to domestic investment.

#### Annual Growth Rates in Industry

(as measured by the Index of Industrial production)

Years	Mining	Manufacturing	Electricity	General
1	2	3	4	5
1991-92	0.6	-0.8	8.5	0.6
1992-93	0.5	2.2	5.0	2.3
1993-94	3.5	6.1	7.4	6.0
1994-95	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.4
1995-96	9.6	13.8	8.1	12.8
1996-97	-2.0	6.7	4.0	5.6

1	2	3	4	5
1997-98	5.9	6.6	6.6	6.6
1998-99	-1.7	4.3	6.5	4.0
1999-2000 (Apr.-Dec.)	0	6.7	7.7	6.2

Note: Growth rates from 1994-95 are as per the IIP Base 1993-94=100 and those for earlier years are for IIP Base 1980-91=100.

Source: Economic Survey years 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

[Translation]

#### Foreign Companies in Industry and Trade Sector

2441. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether some foreign companies have entered in the industry and trade sector of the Country;
- (b) if so, the details of the companies set up under liberalised economic policy of the Government, sector-wise;
- (c) Whether as a result of this, the export from the country has increased;
- (d) if so, the extent of contribution made by these companies in the said increase;
- (e) Whether any assessment has been made or proposed to be made in regard to benefit accrued due to entry of foreign companies into India;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Sir, a total number of 16,454 foreign collaboration approvals in various sectors, including industry and trade, have been granted under the liberalised economic policy. The details of sector-wise approvals are at annexure.

(c) and (d) The data on exports, with specific linkage to FDI is not centrally maintained.

(e) No sir.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The data on foreign exchange outgo and earnings is maintained by Reserve Bank of India.



**Statement**

*Sector wise Break-up of Foreign Direct Investment and Technical  
Collaboration approved during the post – Policy Period  
from (01/08/1991 to 31/12/1999)*

(Amt. Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of Industry	No. of Approval			Amount to FDI Approved	% to Total Amount Approved
		Total	Tech.	Fin		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Fuels	673	215	458	63453.12	30.26
2.	Telecommunications	586	113	473	36642.63	17.48
3.	Transportation Industry	1112	498	614	17430.39	8.31
4.	Service Sector	726	42	684	13857.46	6.61
5.	Metallurgical Industries	595	320	275	12549.84	5.99
6.	Electricals Equipment	2957	1052	1905	12062.41	5.75
7.	Chemicals (other Than Fertilizers)	1489	736	753	12040.58	5.74
8.	Food Processing Industries	749	138	611	8482.02	4.05
9.	Hotel and Tourism	395	135	260	4275.12	2.04
10.	Miscellaneous Industries	1322	643	679	3344.74	1.60
11.	Textiles (Includ Dyed. Printed)	625	124	501	3129.67	1.49
12.	Paper and pulp including Paper Product	168	63	105	2994.54	1.43
13.	Industrial Machinery	1265	776	489	2227.82	1.06
14.	Consultancy Services	516	90	428	1961.85	0.94
15.	Glass	93	32	61	1767.01	0.84
16.	Trading	409	18	391	1457.11	0.69
17.	Miscellaneous Mechanical and Engineering	694	290	404	1395.30	0.67
18.	Cement and Gypsum Products	90	37	53	1383.69	0.66
19.	Rubber Goods	194	98	96	1181.20	0.56
20.	Fermentation Industries	61	19	42	1127.73	0.54
21.	Commercial, Office and Household Equipment	76	29	47	1067.11	0.51
22.	Sugar	7	1	6	1000.75	0.48

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23.	Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	351	195	156	881.76	0.42
24.	Ceramics	200	57	143	858.46	0.41
25.	Agricultural Machinery	41	30	11	434.84	0.21
26.	Machine Tools	185	85	100	375.76	0.18
27.	Soaps, Cosmetics and Toilet Preparations	51	16	35	337.42	0.16
28.	Leather, Leather Goods and Pickers	176	35	141	300.79	0.14
29.	Fertilizers	64	57	7	246.88	0.12
30.	Medical and Surgical Appliances	73	24	49	245.66	0.12
31.	Vegetable Oils and Vanaspati	40	3	37	242.23	0.12
32.	Photographic Raw Film and Paper	23	10	13	229.79	0.11
33.	Boilers and Steam Generating Plants	75	42	33	146.66	0.07
34.	Industrial Instruments	167	95	72	121.52	0.06
35.	Dye-Stuffs	19	3	16	111.22	0.05
36.	Prime Movers other than Electrical	61	38	23	91.72	0.04
37.	Earth-Moving Machinery	58	35	23	85.19	0.04
38.	Scientific Instruments	41	14	27	61.73	0.03
39.	Mathematical, Surveying and Drawing	6	2	4	38.37	0.02
40.	Timber Products	12	2	10	16.32	0.01
41.	Defence Industries	5	4	1	3.47	0.00
42.	Glue and Gelatin	2	0	2	1.20	0.00
Total		16454	6216	10238	20963.08	

[English]

### Closing Down of Tobacco Board

2442. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which the Tobacco Board was constituted;

(b) the manner in which the Tobacco Board is helping the tobacco growers of Karnataka;

(c) whether there is any proposal to close down the Tobacco Board and to allow private parties to deal with tobacco; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The Tobacco Board was constituted by an Act of Parliament, the Tobacco Board Act, 1975 (4 of 1975) and it came into existence from 1.1.1976.

(b) The Tobacco Board is helping the FCV tobacco growers in India including growers of Karnataka by

arranging timely supply of inputs such as fertilizers and coal to the registered farmers at reasonable price, assisting farmers in obtaining crop loans and short term loans from bank, assisting growers in insuring tobacco curing barns with Insurance Companies, ensuring proper grading of the produce so that farmers obtain remunerative prices, arranging sale of FCV tobacco at auction platforms established by the Tobacco Board fixing a Minimum Guarantee Price in consultation with traders and growers, inducing an element of competition among the buyers and ensuring timely payment to the growers through post dated cheques.

(c) There is no proposal to close down the Tobacco Board.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Export Oriented Units

2443. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether several units have not started functioning even after getting the approval for setting up of export oriented units;

(b) if so, the number of such units as on December 31, 1999; and

(c) the reasons for their non-functioning so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Out of 4311 valid approved Export Oriented Units upto December, 1999, 1348 units were operational and 600 units were under implementation at various stages. The remaining units have not been able to start implementation/operation so far.

(c) The reasons are related to procedural and functional problems. After getting approval, an EOU is required to contact Financial Institution, which may take some time for approval. Various other clearances and approvals are required from State Government agencies, Business development plan and other managerial arrangements need to be tied up before production is started.

#### New Publications

2444. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

DR. V. SAROJA :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of newspapers, periodicals registered with the Registrar of Newspaper, State-wise, Category-wise;

(b) the number of publications actually not in existence;

(c) the details and the number of applications received by the Government to start new dailies, weeklies, fortnightly and monthlies of various languages in the country, as on date, State-wise;

(d) the number of applications approved, rejected and under consideration at present, State-wise;

(e) the reasons for rejection of the application in this regard;

(f) the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared;

(g) the problems being faced by print media in the age of cable network; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to save print media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The number of newspaper, periodicals registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as on 31.12.98 state-wise and category-wise is given in Annexure-I. The details of publications actually not in existence are not maintained by the RNI.

(c) to (e) The number of applications received, approved, refused and the number in respect of which discrepancy letters were issued during the period from 1.1.1999 to 31.12.1999, state-wise, is given in the statement at Annexure-II. Discrepancy letters are issued in respect of applications which do not furnish the requisite documents and do not fulfill the provisions as prescribed in the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. Applications were rejected because the titles proposed were the same or similar to the existing titles in the same language or in the same state.

(f) There is no application pending in the office of the RNI.

(g) No such problem has been reported to this Ministry by the print media either individually or through any association.

(h) Does not arise.

Statement.I

*Total number of Newspapers Registered with RNI as on 31.12.1998  
(State/U.Ts and Periodicitywise)*

State/U.Ts	Dailies	Tri/Bi Weeklies	Weeklies	Fort. nightlies	Monthlies	Quarter. lies	Bimonthlies/ Half yearlies	Annuaals	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andaman & Nicobar	4	0	17	8	9	2	2	0	42
Andhra Pradesh	284	7	594	323	662	76	45	6	1997
Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	3	0	1	2	0	0	10
Assam	31	10	170	59	86	27	18	2	403
Bihar	401	33	693	149	250	58	22	2	1608
Chandigarh	35	1	71	28	126	39	19	3	322
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Delhi	271	50	1079	828	2645	691	339	64	5967
Goa	13	0	15	10	27	9	5	1	80
Gujarat	114	5	579	156	415	66	60	4	1399
Haryana	95	8	321	189	201	44	15	2	875
Himachal Pradesh	9	0	53	21	41	18	8	1	151
Jammu & Kashmir	76	4	192	35	30	6	7	0	350
Karnataka	386	11	467	291	761	102	56	5	2079
Kerala	210	5	186	185	861	109	64	17	1637
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
Madhya Pradesh	450	8	2321	148	396	79	45	6	3453
Maharashtra	452	37	1466	386	1353	435	213	178	4520
Manipur	47	3	12	11	38	9	10	4	134
Meghalaya	4	4	32	6	15	5	4	1	71
Mizoram	40	11	34	7	17	5	4	0	118
Nagaland	2	0	9	0	1	2	0	0	14
Orissa	93	2	148	89	292	118	39	10	791
Pondicherry	3	1	10	4	18	17	5	1	59
Punjab	123	13	397	137	299	38	36	7	1050

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	408	22	1008	1086	331	99	30	3	2987
Sikkim	0	2	10	1	1	1	1	0	16
Tamil Nadu	360	50	437	260	1020	128	68	18	2341
Tripura	23	2	53	7	11	3	1	0	100
Uttar Pradesh	805	31	4567	909	1153	305	109	16	7895
West Bengal	148	10	700	578	1004	633	249	32	3354
Total	4890	331	15645	5913	12065	3127	1474	383	43828

**Statement-II***Title information from 1.1.1999 to 31.12.1999*

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UTs	Approved	Rejec- ted	Discre- pancy letters issued	Total Rece- ived
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	596	216	54	866
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	46	25	8	79
4.	Bihar	88	25	18	131
5.	Goa	11	3	0	14
6.	Gujarat	591	191	53	835
7.	Haryana	218	101	1	350
8.	Himachal Pradesh	35	24	9	68
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	49	15	11	75
10.	Karnataka	906	413	324	1643
11.	Kerala	513	289	33	835
12.	Madhya Pradesh	754	424	36	1214
13.	Maharashtra	2664	1991	18	4673
14.	Manipur	21	7	0	28
15.	Meghalaya	8	5	1	14
16.	Mizoram	52	15	0	67
17.	Nagaland	0	1	0	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Orissa	241	126	15	382
19.	Punjab	158	40	103	208
20.	Rajasthan	299	105	41	445
21.	Sikkim	18	7	1	26
22.	Tamil Nadu	877	012	23	912
23.	Tripura	6	3	0	9
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1360	931	180	2471
25.	West Bengal	509	381	8	898
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	16	8	0	24
27.	Chandigarh	58	39	4	101
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
29.	Delhi	1359	875	8	2242
30.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
31.	Pondicherry	13	2	1	16
Total		11496	6274	857	18627

*[English]***VRS in Public Sector Undertakings**

2445. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Voluntary Retirement Scheme offered for employees of Public Sector Undertakings has been losing its attractiveness;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of employees who opted V.R.S. in Public Sector Undertakings since 1993 and the position of surplus staff in those Undertakings at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) The number of employees who opted for the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) since 1993 is 2.31 lakhs and upto 31st March, 1999 is 2,31,885 (prov.) During the year April 1998 to March 1999, 4772 employees only opted for VRS provisionally. With the passage of time and reduction in surplus force, the number of persons who opt for VRS tends to decrease. Therefore, the scheme needs to be made more attractive to the workers.

Managements identify the surplus staff from time to time. Surplus of staff in PSUs has been progressively declining. Besides VRS other measures like ban on further recruitment against vacancies and redeployment of surplus staff on new projects and assignments is also undertaken so as to improve the position.

#### Regional News on Doordarshan, Ranchi

2446. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no arrangement for telecasting regional news from Doordarshan, Ranchi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to telecast news from Doordarshan, Ranchi;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be started; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that two regional news bulletins (one each in Hindi and Urdu) originating from Doordarshan Kendra, Patna are presently being relayed by Doordarshan

Kendra, Ranchi. There is no proposal for telecast of news from Doordarshan Kendra, Ranchi due to various constraints by way of infrastructural facilities, manpower etc.

[Translation]

#### Production of Alumina and Aluminium

2447. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of Alumina and Aluminium has not achieved its fixed target during the last five years including current year;

(b) if so, the details of target set, achievement made and the reasons for shortfall in achieving the target; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) In the Aluminium sector, there are two public sector undertakings i.e. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) and three companies in the private sector i.e., Hindustan Aluminium Company Limited (HINDALCO), Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL) and Madras Aluminium Company Limited (MALCO). Both BALCO and NALCO fix their annual targets of production by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the government. The targets of production in case of private companies are fixed by the individual companies. The performance of the public sector companies is regularly reviewed by the Government with respect to their production targets etc.

BALCO produces Alumina as per requirement of its Smelter because production of Alumina is for captive consumption only. In case of Aluminium, the actual production against the annual target has been in the range of 92 per cent to 98 per cent during the last five years. The slight shortfall in production has been mainly due to power supply failures/interruptions due to grid disturbances.

NALCO produces Alumina for captive consumption in the Smelter and also for exports. NALCO has produced Alumina in excess of the target during the last five years. As regards production of Aluminium, the achievement against target of production has been of the order of 91

per cent to 102 per cent during the years 1995-96, 1996-97, 1997-98 and in the current year (till date). In the year 1998-99, there was a major shortfall in production as the actual production was only 67 per cent of the target due to major break-down in the Aluminium Smelter. The Government has since taken corrective steps and the positions has reverted to normal during the current year.

In the private sector, HINDALCO has achieved targets of production set during the last five years except in 1996-97 when loss of metal production occurred due to power interruption and target achievement was only 96 per cent. INDAL has achieved the targets of production set by them in every year during the last five years. MALCO has achieved the target of production set by them for Alumina and Aluminium during the last five years except the year 1998-99 when production against targets set was 62 per cent in case of Alumina and 69 per cent in case of Aluminium.

(English)

#### Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings

2448. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have identified many Government / Semi-Government Undertakings for disinvestment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Disinvestment is a continuing process and is done keeping in view the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission, the Government policy, market conditions, categorisation of the industry as strategic or non-strategic, financial performance of the company and in consultation with the concerned Ministries.

#### Production of Cocoa

2449. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cocoa is produced in India;

(b) if so, the details of production during each of the last three years, State-wise.

(c) whether the Government exports Cocoa or Cocoa products;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps proposed to increase production and export of Cocoa;

(f) the steps taken to ensure reasonable price for Cocoa to farmers; and

(g) the details of average price of Cocoa during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The statewise production of cocoa during the last three years has been as follows :

State	Quantity in MTs		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Kerala	5800	3500	3800
Karnataka	800	1300	1400
Andhra Pradesh	-	600	700
Tamilnadu	-	Negligible	Negligible
Total	6600	5400	5900

Source : Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

(c) The Government does not export Cocoa or Cocoa products.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Government of India has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme on development of cocoa since the eighth Five Year Plan aimed at, inter-alia, area expansion, distribution of planting materials and rejuvenation of old orchards. The outlay for the scheme during the Eighth Five Year Plan was Rs. 5.00 crores. During the first two years of the Ninth Plan, an assistance of Rs. 130 lakhs have been provided to the State Governments. The outlay for the scheme during the current year is Rs. 50 lakhs and for the Ninth Plan Rs. 6.00 crores.

The Government has been providing assistance for various activities for the promotion of exports of horticulture

products including cocoa. These activities include, assistance for conducting feasibility studies, surveys; infrastructure development; promotion of quality and quality control; packaging development; export promotion and market development and training.

(g) The average price of cocoa during the last three years has been as follows :

Year	Rs./per kg.
1996-97	17.50
1997-98	16.70
1998-99	16.00

Source : Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India

[Translation]

#### Gatt Agreement

2450.SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which India signed the GATT agreement of WTO and the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of consumer goods for which import duty had to be curtailed along with the extent of cut made in this regard under this agreement during each of the last three years and the total loss of revenue suffered by the country as a result thereof during the above period and its impact on the small scale industries as well as employment opportunities in the country;

(c) the number of foreign companies allowed to enter in the domestic market of the country so far under this agreement and the total amount in foreign currency taken away by these foreign companies out of the country as profit or in other forms;

(d) whether the Government propose to review the impact of this agreement;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) India is an original signatory to the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), 1947. India also signed the Marrakesh Agreement

Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO) on 15th April, 1994 which was formally established on 1st January 1995. The GATT in its modified form known as GATT 1994 also became a part of the WTO Agreement. India has been a consistent supporter of the multilateral trading system. Further more, all such agreements are signed after taking into account the balance of concessions and advantages they have for us.

(b) Under Article II of GATT 1994 each WTO member country has bound its tariffs at different levels for different proportion of tariff lines. Each member country is obliged not to impose tariffs or other duties or charges which are in excess of these bindings set forth in its schedule. Prior to the Uruguay Round negotiations, India had bound some 6 percent of its tariff lines. As a result of the Uruguay Round, India now has bound about 67 percent of its tariff lines, with all agricultural lines bound and some 62 percent of lines for imports of non-agricultural goods. Lines remaining unbound include those mainly of consumer products and some industrial items. For non-agricultural goods, India undertook, with a few exceptions, ceiling bindings of 40 percent *ad valorem* on finished goods and 25 percent on intermediate goods, machinery and equipment. In agriculture, where, except for a few products which were historically bound at low levels, India's bound rates range from 100 to 300 percent. For all agricultural items, the reduction to these bound rates is to be achieved by 1.3.2004, for textile items by 1.3.2005, and for all other products, the committed reduction is to be achieved by 1.3.2000. As far as the applied tariff rates are concerned, these are decided autonomously as a part of our overall economic policy and, therefore, any impact of the reduction of tariffs on consumer items has not been, by and large linked to the bound levels committed in the WTO.

(c) GATT 1947, as well its modified version of 1994, deal with issues relating to market access for goods and does not address the issue of entry of foreign companies in the domestic market.

(d) to (f) The Government has, from time to time, been reviewing the impact of different aspects of the Agreement with a view to devising suitable strategies for meeting our domestic needs.

[English]

#### Disinvestment Commission

2451.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNI: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:



(a) whether the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance and Comptroller General of India is mandatory in the case of disinvestment of equity of any public sector unit or undertaking as per the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission;

(b) if so, whether such directions have been complied in case of disinvestment of Gas Authority of India Ltd., Indian Airlines, Modern Food, etc; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) An elaborate procedure is followed for disinvestment in Public Sector Undertakings and the Ministry of Finance has an appropriate role in it. Concurrence of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for disinvestment of PSUs is not required.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Finance has provided relevant inputs in case of disinvestment proposals of Gas Authority of India Ltd, Modern Food, Indian Airlines etc.

[Translation]

#### Impact of WTO Agreement on SSIS

2452.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-items appearing in the daily *Jansatha*, on December 29, 1999 captioned "Arthik Gulami Mein Fansne Ka Fanda Hai WTO";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any memorandum from the Federation of Association of Maharashtra (FOM) and the Bombay Small Scale Industries Association (BSSIA) in this regard;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The main thrust of the article is that Indian trade and industry,

particularly retail trade and the small scale industries sector, are facing hardships due to the free global trade flows resulting from the WTO regime. The article, however, has not taken into account that although the WTO regime warrants removal of Quantitative Restrictions on imports unless imposed under certain specific provisions of the WTO Agreements, appropriate protection to the domestic industry can be provided by way of tariffs. Besides, trade protection measures such as anti-dumping, safeguard and anti-subsidy actions can be taken for the protection of the domestic industry under certain circumstances. Moreover, similar free flow of Indian exports is also possible under the WTO rules through which all WTO Members accord 'Most Favoured Nation' and 'National Treatment' to each other. The range of WTO Agreements represent a balance of rights and obligations with the objective of encouraging free flow of international trade.

(c) and (d) The representation of Bombay Small Scale Industries Association dated 11th Feb. 2000 and another representation by Federation of Association of Maharashtra dated 7th Feb. 2000 have been received in this Ministry. The thrust of both these representations is that Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) should not be allowed in the retail trade sector.

(e) As per extant policy of the Government. FDI is not being permitted for domestic retailing, including for establishing retail stores, supermarkets etc.

#### Export of Textiles

2453.SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of textiles exported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000, till date;

(b) whether the export has been affected by imposition of the anti-dumping duty on various Indian Textiles by the European Union; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The details of quantity of textiles (Provisional) exported during 1998-99 and the period April-December 1999 are given as under:-

S.No	Item	Quantity of Exports		
		1998-99	1999-2000 (Apr-Dec)	unit
1	Readymade Garment	9533	9655	lakh pcs.
2	cotton Textiles (a+b+c)			
	(a) Cotton Fabrics	1945.21	1680.16	M.Sq.Mtrs.
	(b) Cotton Yarn	487.19	409.57	M.Kg.
	(c) Cotton Made ups	NA	NA	
3	Man-made Textiles	254244.42	217959.39	Tonnes
4	Wool and Woolens (a+b+c+d)			
	(a) Woollen/Worsted Fabrics	0.41	0.11	Crores Sq. Mtrs
	(b) Woollen Knitwear	1.72	1.32	Crores Pcs.
	(c) Made-ups	NA	NA	
	(d) Yarn	0.27	0.08	Crores Kgs
5.	Silk (a+b)			
	(a) Silk Goods	285.58	295.86	Lakh Sq.M.
	(b) Silk Yarn/Waste	8.65	14.50	Lakh Kg.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Over the past few years, India's three textile product categories, namely (i) Unbleached Cotton Fabrics (UCF) (ii) Cotton Type Bed linen and (iii) Polyester Textured Filament Yarn (PTFY) have been subjected to anti-dumping action by the European Commission (EC). While the EC did not impose definitive Anti-Dumping duties on UCF and PTFY, they imposed definitive anti-dumping duties on cotton type bed-linen originating inter-alia from India in December, 1997. India has challenged the EC's action to impose definitive anti-dumping duties on cotton type bed-linen under Dispute Settlement mechanism of the WTO.

#### Export of Rice, Grains and Pulses

2454.DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the rice is being exported;  
Imports

(b) if so, the rate of export duty imposed on rice during each of the last three years and the varieties of rice exported;

(c) whether other grains and pulses are being imported to meet the domestic demand; and

(d) if so, the quantity and varieties of grains and pulses imported during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Export of rice (both basmati and non-basmati rice) is allowed freely subject to registration of contracts with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). There is no export duty on rice exports.

(c) and (d) The total quantity and value of foodgrains and pulses imported during the last three years are as under:-

Qty: in MT  
Value: Rs. crores

Item	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99 (Prov.)		1999-2000(Prov.) (Apr-Nov. 99)	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Wheat	612676	403.76	1485781	988.98	1346932	939.51	688317	410.93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Non Basmati Rice	2	0.02	54	0.06	6213	5.69	2190	3.65
Coarse Grains	1955	0.50	1124	0.34	2038	1.06	129405	86.61
Pulses	654908	890.34	1008161	1194.64	312744	404.52	137339	183.24

(Source: DGCI &amp;S, Calcutta)

**Discontinuation of Regional Transmission**

2455. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Chhote Nirmataon Ko Bahar Kar Raha Hai Doordarshan" appearing in the Rashtriya Sahara dated December 18, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether Doordarshan has discontinued 30 seconds' backing slotted for DD-I provided to the producers for producing programmes for international channel;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the regional transmission between 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. in the evening from Delhi, Jaipur, Bhopal and Patna centres have also been discontinued by the Doordarshan; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been reported in the said news item that Doordarshan has recently discontinued the banking facility which was earlier available to producers sponsoring programmes on DD-International Channel. It has further been stated that the regional transmission between 7.30 and 8.30 p.m. from Delhi, Jaipur, Bhopal and Patna Kendras has been discontinued. These steps, it has been contended, have adversely affected the small producers.

(c) and (d) Prasar Bharati have intimated that banking facility has been discontinued as it was adversely affecting the revenue earnings of Doordarshan.

(e) and (f) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that with a view to enlarge viewership and improve the quality

of production and giving uniform slick look to Doordarshan programmes, the time slot from 7.30 to 8.00 p.m. has been taken for centralized programming while time slot from 8.00 to 8.30 p.m. has been given to the National News.

[English]

**Promotion of one Liners by Visual Media**

2456. SHRI V. VETRISELVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the visual media agencies of the Government are actively promoting one liners to make aware of the public about social welfare measures like health, family planning crime against woman, dowry problem, etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) DAVP releases advertisements, puts up hoardings, wall-paintings and exhibitions and produces video and audio spots to create awareness about socially relevant themes like health and family welfare, women and child development issues. AIDS. These are publicised through DAVP, Doordarshan and Directorate of Field Publicity, Doordarshan is also telecasting short duration capsules on the above themes.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Trade Agreement with China, Russia and Indonesia**

2457. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in Navbharat Times dated February 10, 2000 captioned "Char Deshon Ke Beech Bazar Sajhedari Badhane Ka Indonesia Ka Sujhav";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the names of the commodities on which a trade pact is likely to be signed among these four countries; and

(d) the date from which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) The President of Indonesia, during his recent visit to India, had made remarks in a meeting organized by FICCI on 9-2-2000 in New Delhi that a larger market could be set up including China, India, Indonesia, Russia and other neighbouring countries. However, no concrete proposal for setting up such an arrangement has been made.

[English]

#### Compound Interest on Agricultural Loan

2458. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to abolish the system of charging compound interest on agricultural loan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATEIL): (a) to (c) Policy guidelines for charging interest on loans to agriculture are laid down by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). As per the extant guidelines of RBI, the scheduled commercial banks are advised to charge simple interest on loans to agriculture and compound interest only when it is not repaid to the bank on due date which is the date fixed taking into consideration the fluidity with borrower and harvesting/marketing season.

[Translation]

#### Insurance of Poor People

2459. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance security is provided to the poor for building up their houses devastated due to floods, cyclone, earthquake and other natural calamities;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) if not, whether the Government intends to prepare some other schemes for the benefit of the poor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. At the instance of various State Governments, the subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India have devised certain special insurance covers in respect of dwelling units of below poverty line people and these Schemes have already been introduced in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala and Maharashtra. The Schemes provide for compensation for loss or damage to dwelling units caused by various insured perils including floods, cyclone, earthquake and other natural calamities.

[English]

#### Frauds in Private Sector Banks

2460. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of fraud took place in the private sector banks during the last three years, bank-wise;

(b) the number of bank officials found guilty of lapses in not observing the regulations on the subject and the action taken against them; and

(c) the number of cases in which police complaints were lodged by the bank authorities and the reasons for not lodging the police complaints in the remaining cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), data on frauds for the year 1997 to 1999 (up to September 1999) indicating the number of frauds and the amount involved in respect of private sector banks is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) RBI's data monitoring system does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, private sector banks are required to take action against

the bank officials found guilty of lapses in not observing the regulations on the subject keeping in view the rules/

regulations and service conditions framed by the respective banks and keeping in view the RBI guidelines.

### Statement

*Data on Frauds for the years 1997 to 1999 (Upto September)*

(Amount in lakhs of Rupees)

Private Sector Banks	1997		1998		1999 (upto September)	
	No. of Frauds	Amount Involved	No. of Frauds	Amount Involved	No. of Frauds	Amount Involved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bank of Madura Ltd.	7	12.81	8	731.34	4	38.26
Bank of Punjab Ltd.	1	0.42	0	0.00	7	113.23
Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	4	5.11	10	714.47	6	30.44
Bareilly Corporation Bank Ltd.	2	1.50	2	56.77	0	0.00
Benares State Bank Ltd.	5	1.37	6	498.27	9	334.18
Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.	5	47.51	7	183.36	3	0.49
Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	17	817.85	9	424.08	7	61.85
Centurion Bank Ltd.	2	601.06	1	0.17	0	0.00
City Union Bank Ltd.	3	0.86	1	63.12	2	0.65
Development Credit Bank Ltd.	9	121.71	4	13.36	3	21.49
Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	8	152.34	13	44.07	7	35.19
Federal Bank Ltd.	33	49.04	25	1352.34	19	3179.55
Global Trust Bank Ltd.	3	0.89	9	7.34	2	1.06
HDFC Bank	5	8.69	2	11.81	3	34.19
ICICI Banking Corpn. Ltd.	0	0.00	2	0.98	3	26.58
IDBI Bank Ltd.	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	1.55
Indusind Bank Ltd.	0	0.00	3	3153.39	1	951.00*
Jammu and Kashmir Bank	23	329.85	11	315.20	14	50.47
Karnataka Bank Ltd.	28	158.98	24	470.23	16	97.18
Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	14	56.67	8	286.81	8	22.03
Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.	20	1100.72	6	2.46	6	8.80
Lord Krishna Bank Ltd.	5	409.51	4	96.10	0	0.00
Nainital Bank Ltd.	0	0.00	2	12.88	1	0.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Nedungadi Bank Ltd.	9	35.47	5	29.48	4	37.85
Sangli Bank Ltd.	11	169.47	8	16.81	8	7.31
South Indian Bank Ltd.	13	30.47	21	677.84	11	469.97
Tamilnadu Mercantile Bank Ltd.	13	1809.21	24	44.61	11	41.70
Times Bank	2	350.61	1	1.79	3	313.51
UTI Bank Ltd.	0	0.00	1	177.50	3	12.62
United Western Bank Ltd.	7	97.39	7	3.90	7	29.89
Vysya Bank Ltd.	21	3222.34	5	51.21	10	29.68

\*Fraud Amount revised from Rs. 2583.00 lakhs.

#### Plan Allocation for North-Eastern Region

2461. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 10% deduction from plan allocation of Central Government Schemes involved in North-Eastern States may be used for the Development of the North-Eastern States for infrastructural Development; and

(b) if so, the amount deducted and utilized during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Central Government Departments have been asked to spend at least 10% out of the Plan Schemes on Schemes relating to North-East. Any savings on this account are required to be surrendered to a Central Pool for funding schemes of North-Eastern States.

(b) During 1998-99 for funding various projects in the North-Eastern Region and Sikkim approved by the Planning Commission a sum of Rs. 121.95 crore was sanctioned.

#### Banks in Rural areas of Manipur

2462. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of banks functioning rural areas of Manipur along-with the total deposit and working capital of each bank;

(b) the number of customers including farmers and artisans benefited by these banks during the last three years; and

(c) the amount of loan disbursed and recovered by these banks, separately, during the above period;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) 10 banks including Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperative Banks are functioning in the rural areas of Manipur. The details of deposits in the rural areas of Manipur (as on 30.06.99) and working funds (total assets) of these banks (as on 31st March, 1999) are as under:-

Name of the Banks	(Rs. in crores)	
	Deposits	Working Funds
State Bank of India	40.50	222509.02
Bank of Baroda	1.63	52232.40
UCO Bank	0.22	20752.48
Andhra Bank	0.81	11556.73
Vijaya Bank	1.30	11095.67
Central Bank of India	0.16	35328.80
United Bank of India	13.45	17215.23
Punjab National Bank	3.48	46323.48
Manipur Rural Bank	*13.92	20.86
Manipur State Cooperative Bank	*10.03	48.58

\* as on 31st March, 1999

(b) and (c) As per data available, the information in respect of total number of loan accounts in priority sector,

total outstanding credit under priority sector including credit to farmers and artisans and total recovery as percentage of demand in Manipur for the last three years is as under:-

(Amount Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Total outstanding credit under Priority Sector		Total Recovery as % of demand
	Account	Amount	
1997-98 (as on 30.09.1997)	63750	15609.34	5.1
1998-99 (as on 31.03.1999)	60260	16870.51	4.8
1999-2000 (as on 30.06.1999)	61493	16687.94	4.43

#### Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme

2463.SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the "Critical Infrastructure Balance" Scheme for boosting exports is in operation:

(b) If so, the details of projects sanctioned under the scheme for funding in North-Eastern Region during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) Whether any project is proposed to be sanctioned during the next financial year; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The details of the projects sanctioned under the scheme for the North-Eastern Region during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The project proposals are considered under the scheme as and when submitted by the State Governments.

#### Statement

(In. Rs. Crores)

Project	State	Year of Sanction	Total Cost	Contribution from Critical Infrastructure Balance Schem	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6
Development of Surma Trunk Road from Karimganj to Sutarkandi border	Assam	98-99	11.00	5.50 (50%)	1.85
Development of Trade Centre at Sutarkhandi	Assam	99-2000	8.16	6.53* (80%)	1.00
Infrastructure Development at E.P.I.P., Amingaon	Assam	98-99	3.4547	3.4547 (100%)	2.50
Improvement of Road near E.P.I.P. Byrnihat	Meghalaya	97-98	0.65	0.65 (100%)	0.65
Installation of a S/S, E.P.I.P., Byrnihat	Meghalaya	97-98	2.43	2.43 (100%)	2.43
Construction of a composite building at Zokhwathar	Mizoram	97-98	NA	2.00	2.00
Improvement of road from Fire Station, Chumuhani to Akhura Checkpost	Tripura	98-99	0.82	0.41 (50%)	0.41
Development of infrastructure at Old Raghana Bazar LCS,	Tripura	99-2000	11.20	8.96* (80%)	NIL

1	2	3	4	5	6
Weighbridge at Akhura and Raghna LCS, Tripura	Tripura	98-99	0.27	0.27 (100%)	0.27
Infrastructure Development at Moreh	Manipur	99-2000	0.95	0.95 (100%)	0.95

The cost of the land for the project, which has to be borne by the State Government, will be deducted from this amount.

### Disinvestment Policy

2464. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Willl the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Disinvestment Department has proposed a series of redical changes in the disinvestment policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether any commission has been appointed by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details regarding the recommendations of this commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The disinvestment is being pursued by the Department of Disinvestment in accordance with the declared policy of the Government announced in the Budget Speech for 98-99 as under:

"Government have also decided that in the generality of cases, the Government shareholding in public sector enterprises will be brought down to 26 per cent. In cases of public sector enterprises, involving strategic considerations, government will continue to retain majority holding. The interest of workers shall be protected in all cases".

(c) and (d) The Disinvestment Commission was constituted by the Government on 23rd August, 1996. The Commission has so far given 12 reports in which it has given its recommendations in respect of 58 public sector enterprises.

### Decrease in Mining of Coal

2465. SHRI G.J.JAVIYA : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mining of coal has been decreasing in the collieries;

(b) if so, the extent to which it has decreased and the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum to which it would reduce and affect the supply of coal to railways and power projects; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to affect the functioning of railways as well as reduce power generation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) There has been positive growth in coal production in last five years except for the year 1998-99. In 1998-99 coal companies regulated their production of coal due to sluggish demand and low offtake by the consumers. The production in 1998-99 was 292.27 million tonnes against a target of 306.50 million tonnes.

(c) and (d) Coal requirements of all consumers including power and railways would be met and the performance of Railways and Power Sectors is not expected to be affected by regulation of production, if any.

### Large Percentage of Ashes in Coal

2466.SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether indigenous coal contains a large percentage of ashes;

(b) if so, whether the Government insist upon collieries to have coal washeries at the pit hole;

(c) the number of washeries have been erected and are operating, as on today; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take on the collieries to make them implement the orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government does not insist upon collieries to have coal washeries at the pit head.



(c) 19 numbers of washeries have been erected and are operating under CIL as on date.

(d) As per the notification of the Ministry of Environment and Forest, all Thermal Power Plants located at a distance beyond 1000 KMs from the pithead or located in urban areas/sensitive areas/critically polluted areas irrespective of distance must use coal with ash content not exceeding 34% on and from 1st June 2001. Ministry of Power has constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Member Thermal. CEA for looking into the various aspects connected with the implementation of the above MOEF's notification. On receipt of recommendation of the committee appropriate action will be taken by all concern agencies.

#### Export Proceeds

2467. SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that hundreds of exporters are intentionally keeping money abroad;

(b) whether the Government have a list of exporters from whose export proceeds are not received and period for which this payment is pending;

(c) whether RBI submits such list to the Finance Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The Government is aware that in case of certain exporters, some export bills are outstanding.

(b) The Enforcement Directorate keeps this information with its Zonal Offices.

(c) and (d) The Reserve Bank of India sends half yearly statements of outstanding export bills to the concerned nodal Customs Houses. RBI also forwards to the Enforcement Directorate from time to time, the names of those defaulters in whose cases RBI has refused extension of time beyond the stipulated period, for realisation of export proceeds. Action taken against such exporters include issue of show cause notices, adjudication and imposition of penalty, under the relevant provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

#### Dunlop India Ltd.

2468 SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have sought the permission of Union Government to take over Dunlop India Ltd. at Sahagunge in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) No, Sir. The Govt. of West Bengal has not sought the permission of Central Govt. for itself to take over Dunlop India at Sahagunge in West Bengal. However, it urged the Central Govt. to explore all possibilities and take immediate steps to invoke the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for taking over the management of the company.

(b) The Central Government had responded that the general health of the tyre and tube industry (schedule industry concerned in the case of M/s. Dunlop India Limited.) is comfortable. As reported to Parliament in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Industry for the year 1996-97, the policy of the Govt. is not to take over any sick unit under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act.

The above view was expressed in reply to Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 61 answered on 1.6.98 (copy enclosed).

COPY OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 61

To be answered on Monday, the 1st June, 1998

#### Government Control in Dunlop India Ltd.

\*61. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government in a bid to wrest control in Dunlop India Ltd. is seeking appointment of additional Directors on the Board of the Company.

(b) whether the move follows investigations which revealed financial irregularities in affairs of Dunlop;

(c) if so, whether Government is proposing to takeover the Company under Section 18-AA of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 61 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.06.1998

(a) and (b) The Department of Company Affairs had ordered the inspection of books of accounts of M/s. Dunlop India Limited under Section 209A of the Companies Act 1956, based on a complaint received from Dunlop Workers Union. In the light of violations and irregularities noticed during inspection, Central Government has moved a petition under Section 408 of the Companies Act before the Company Law Board for appointment of Government Directors on the Board of the Company. The matter at present is subjudice.

(c) and (d) Section 18-AA of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 provides for taking over of industrial undertakings by Central Government in certain cases. As reported to the Parliament in the Annual Report of the Ministry of Industry for the year 1996-97, the policy of Government of India is not to take over any sick units under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. As such, there is no proposal to take over the company under Section 18-AA of the IDR Act.

#### Payment to Railways by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

2469. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid by the Mahanadi Coalfields Limited to the Railways on account of left behind, warfage demurrage and for other reasons during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 till date particularly in Talcher and IB areas;

(b) the loss suffered by each mine of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited during the above period as a result thereof;

(c) The action taken against the guilty management for this loss; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to maintain austerity in the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) Details of demurrage, left behind and wharfage paid by Mahanadi Coalfields Limited to Railways in Talcher and IB coalfields are as under:

COALFIELDS	(Rupees in lakh)		
	AMOUNT PAID		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
TALCHER	0.00	0.00	0.00
IB VALLEY	10.03	11.00	1.80 (Under finalisation with Railway authorities)

The loss suffered is minimal as the amount per tonne of despatch works out to the 2 to 3 paise only.

(c) and (d) MCL is making efforts to minimise the incidence of demurrage and left behind of wagons by

- Ensuring more supervision of the sidings..
- Ensuring lesser mechanical break down of CHP/ rake loading equipments.
- Taking appropriate measures to ensure more availability of coal at sidings.
- Cases of such deductions are examined in depth and suitable remedial measures are taken to avoid/minimise losses on such acts of omissions and commissions leading to demurrages.

As a result of the above steps taken, there has been substantial reduction in the current year so far as demurrages are concerned.

[Translation]

#### Tea Trading Corporation on India

2470. SHRI S.P. LEPCHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the labourers working in the Putudung, Bha Takbhar and Peshonk tea gardens in the Darjeeling district are functioning under the Tea Trading Corporation of India have been deprived of their wages, ration and other facilities; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take urgent necessary action in this regard so as to provide them wages and other admissible facilities by the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (TTCI) is a wholly owned

subsidiary of STC, which manages the administration of five tea gardens in the States of West Bengal and Assam including Potong, Vah Tukvar and Pashok. The Company is facing an acute financial crunch being a loss making Company and has been unable to discharge its obligations. The total liability of the Company is estimated around Rs. 36 crores as on 31.1.1997.

TTCI management filed a petition in Calcutta High Court for liquidation of the Company. The case is pending in the Court. TTCI is unable to generate funds for the revival of its gardens.

[English]

**Meeting with Director of Feature Film "WATER"**

2471. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the director of feature film "Water" recently met him;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the subject-matter of her representation/discussions and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The proposal for grant of permission for shooting the film "Water" by M/s Flagship International Limited from Canada was approved by this Ministry according to procedure prescribed for shooting in India, either wholly or partly by foreigners, which is laid down in the Visa Manual of the Ministry of External Affairs. Permission was granted to the company by letter of 6th January 2000 after due consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh conveyed that there were protests by organizations and persons in Varanasi about the content of the script and suggested re-examination of the script by the Govt. of India. As per the procedure prescribed for shooting of feature films in India by foreigners, any material deviations in the approved script require prior permission of this Ministry. Accordingly, Ms Deepa Mehta approached the Ministry for approval of a revised version of the script with certain amendments/deletions and dialogues in Hindi. Approval of the Government was accorded to the amended version on 22.2.2000. Shooting was resumed on 5th February but due to continued demonstrations by several organisations and

groups of persons causing a law and order problem in the city, the District Administration ordered stoppage of shooting for 15 days under Section 144 Cr. P.C. by their order of 7th February 2000.

Approval is granted by this Ministry to the applicant subject to a condition that shooting on locations would be with the prior permission of respective controlling authorities. The permission to shoot in Varanasi is subject to the District Administration's permission.

**Assistance to Sick Units**

2472. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise sick units in the country;

(b) the state-wise details of financial assistance provided to sick units in the country during each of the last three years;

(c) the State-wise proposals to provide financial assistance to sick units are lying pending with the Central Government;

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(e) whether the Government propose to close down some of these sick units; and

(f) if so, the criteria for closure of such units and the names of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) state-wise details of Number of Sick Non-SSI and SSI Units alongwith amount outstanding as on March 1996, March 1997 and March 1998 are given in the enclosed Statement I and II respectively.

(c) and (d) Rehabilitation of sick units registered with Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) are done in accordance with the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, (SICA) 1985. BIFR does not provide financial assistance to the sick industrial companies registered with it. However, wherever feasible, rehabilitation schemes are sanctioned for the revival of the sick companies which include various measures like restructuring the equity, induction of fresh funds by the promoters, merger with the other companies, change of management, provision for working capital and term loans by banks and financial institutions. Reliefs and concessions from various parties also form part of the schemes.

(a) and (f) In case no viable and technically feasible up of the company to the concerned High Court as per rehabilitation proposals emerge, BIFR recommends winding the provisions of SICA.

### Statement-I

*State-wise viability position of Non-SSI Sick/Weak Units as at the end of March 1996, 1997, 1998*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	March 1996		March 1997		March 1998	
		No. of Units	Amount Outstanding	No. of Units	Amount Outstanding	No. of Units	Amount Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Assam	19831	51.85	10133	54.18	15774	60.02
2.	Meghalaya	4985	15.80	5531	8.20	4076	6.52
3.	Mizoram	62	1.81	1199	2.76	615	2.45
4.	Bihar	16695	97.54	22702	120.62	24935	142.74
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	104	0.96	26	0.12	456	0.94
6.	West Bengal	56214	388.26	53451	371.67	53617	378.32
7.	Nagaland	1445	11.39	2738	9.44	1386	4.98
8.	Manipur	913	8.06	2707	9.85	1919	8.79
9.	Orissa	7826	47.57	3408	45.08	1889	35.63
10.	Sikkim	116	0.58	30	0.14	33	0.11
11.	Tripura	1356	2.73	3171	4.46	2011	6.26
12.	A and N Islands	41	0.18	13	0.08	45	1.60
13.	Uttar Pradesh	38349	340.72	23286	299.39	14294	299.66
14.	Delhi	6045	247.46	3943	264.81	3580	298.59
15.	Punjab	2362	64.16	2466	84.44	2376	91.70
16.	Haryana	2332	97.76	2574	63.95	2149	92.41
17.	Chandigarh	205	12.51	170	14.41	163	16.69
18.	J & K	3728	25.62	761	8.10	1627	25.15
19.	Himachal Pradesh	567	18.01	2206	17.68	735	22.15
20.	Rajasthan	15668	84.11	14561	97.51	15655	108.62
21.	Gujarat	7476	228.37	6510	196.80	6806	224.63
22.	Maharashtra	20100	744.14	19360	764.53	17925	749.94

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Daman and Diu	5	1.88	4	1.41	5	3.83
24.	Goa	717	15.39	604	13.86	670	16.15
25.	D and N Haveli	1	0.90	1	0.90	2	1.16
26.	Madhya Pradesh	11748	172.30	12070	151.44	8348	141.86
27.	Andhra Pradesh	14794	296.41	15460	214.39	12074	218.77
28.	Karnataka	11196	247.24	6937	203.26	6680	223.19
29.	Lakshadweep	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
30.	Tamil Nadu	8293	326.97	9809	398.82	12289	456.93
31.	Kerala	8984	163.50	8908	168.28	8969	190.12
32.	Pondicherry	218	7.78	293	18.64	431	26.13
Total		262376	3721.94	235032	3609.20	221536	3856.64

**Statement-II**

*State-wise viability position of Sick Small Scale Industrial Units  
as at the end of March 1996, 1997, 1998*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	March 1996		March 1997		March 1998	
		No. of Units	Amount Outstanding	No. of Units	Amount Outstanding	No. of Units	Amount Outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Assam	37	116.57	38	166.03	44	157.97
2.	Meghalaya	2	1.31	1	0.89	2	1.39
3.	Bihar	56	103.19	55	116.62	63	358.24
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1.77	2	2.47	2	2.47
5.	West Bengal	225	1080.37	216	1033.43	240	1126.21
6.	Nagaland	1	1.30	1	1.30	2	2.48
7.	Manipur	1	2.37	1	2.45	2	2.42
8.	Orissa	53	194.72	55	260.67	57	210.64
9.	Sikkim	1	6.35	1	6.35	1	6.35
10.	Tripura	6	9.13	6	9.95	6	9.41
11.	Uttar Pradesh	173	993.58	170	915.85	208	1198.97
12.	Delhi	26	125.97	21	134.05	34	233.51

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13. Punjab		37	137.35	51	146.19	69	203.01
14. Haryana		63	305.56	66	304.11	86	394.87
15. Chandigarh		12	32.85	10	22.73	3	7.54
16. J & K		7	27.89	7	13.58	7	8.91
17. Himachal Pradesh		20	38.72	21	26.76	32	54.30
18. Rajasthan		61	229.58	67	249.73	87	371.33
19. Gujarat		177	670.07	174	583.67	215	881.34
20. Maharashtra		337	1688.84	340	1614.88	410	2092.11
21. Daman and Diu		1	1.90	1	1.84	5	27.77
22. Goa		4	11.42	3	7.71	13	51.66
23. D and N Haveli		2	4.22	1	4.03	8	18.47
24. Madhya Pradesh		99	323.86	91	300.11	116	491.68
25. Andhra Pradesh		234	1037.42	225	1060.67	295	1264.15
26. Karnataka		114	493.34	110	556.06	171	1001.85
27. Tamil Nadu		129	762.63	141	622.93	198	1114.43
28. Kerala		69	412.38	64	409.15	85	495.73
29. Pondicherry		8	8.54	9	39.76	15	34.04
Total		1956	8823.19	1948	8613.95	2476	11825.25

[Translation]

**Tenders for Construction of Roads**

2473. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision of construction of roads in the mining areas by the coal companies under Coal India Limited:

(b) if so, whether there is similarity in the provisions of inviting tenders for construction of roads in all the subsidiaries:

(c) if so, whether the South Eastern Coalfields Limited has made changes in the criteria for inviting tenders in January this year as against the earlier tenders;

(d) if so, the details thereof: and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) As reported by Coal India Limited, all the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited earmark certain budget every year for undertaking community development works. Through this, developmental activities such as drinking water supply schemes, construction of roads, construction of community toilets etc. are funded in and around the establishments of coal PSUs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (c) above.

[English]

### Central Assistance to State Governments

2474 SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI M V V S MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of requests for Central assistance in various heads received from the State Government are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of the requests received during the last one year, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the requests of the State Government; and

(d) the time by which all the requests for Central assistance are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) No, Sir.

Central assistance for state plan as approved by the Planning Commission is released to the States as block loans and block grants. Apart from the plan assistance and devolution under the Finance Commission's recommendations, Government of India provides Ways and Means Advances to the State Governments to take care of any temporary mismatch in receipts and expenditure during the course of the year.

Some State Governments had requested for additional assistance/medium-term loans in view of fiscal stress being faced by them consequent upon implementation of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission.

Government of India assisted the State facing fiscal stress by advancing plan and non-plan assistance linked to a package of fiscal reforms to be initiated by the States. During the current year Government of India has also extended Extended Ways and Means support to those States who have finalised acceptable and monitorable fiscal reform programmes.

### Burn Standard Company

2475. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Burn Standard Company Limited has been regularly receiving export orders for its products like wagons, railway equipments etc.;

(b) if so, the details of export orders received by the company during the last two years;

(c) whether the company succeeded in executing all the export orders on schedule; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Although Burn Standard Co. Ltd. has been receiving and executing export orders, orders for wagons and railway equipment have not been forthcoming recently.

(b) Details are given in enclosed Statement.

(c) The Company has generally executed all the export orders on priority and without any delay.

(d) Does not arise

### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Customer	Item	Unit of Measurement	Order received during April'1999–Feb.'2000		Order received during April'1998–March'1999	
				Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Physical Exports</b>							
1.	Qatar Steel	Refractory items	MT	504	40.32	1200	135.15
2	Qatar Steel	-do-	MT	1491	126.01	1806	154.28
3	Mitsubishi (Japan)	-do-	MT	40	3.10	20	1.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Gulf Metal FDRY, Dubai	Refractory Items	MT	21.5	2.79	64.5	7.20
<b>Indirect Exports</b>							
1.	J. Fulchand & Co. Vietnam	-do-	MT	21.5	1.55	—	—
2.	Peekay Overseas Dubai	-do-	MT	59.5	5.47	7.5	0.80
3.	East West Exports and Imports, Sri Lanka	-do-	MT	126.1	11.97	—	—
		-do-	MT	39.48	6.52	104.67	12.58
		-do-	MT	19.74	3.62	—	—
4.	Vision Refractory, Dubai	-do-	MT	1.77	4.01	—	—
5.	Fair Trade Corp., Dubai	-do-	MT	18	1.38	—	—
6.	Coimbatore Potteries, Dubai	-do-	MT	2	0.26	4.5	0.47
Total				2344.59	207.00	3207.17	311.91

### Utilisation of Funds by J&K

2476. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount provided to the State of J&K on account of various Central grants, special assistance and loans during the last three years as also during the current year, till date;

(b) whether the State has faced serious cash crunch and the reasons extended by the State Government for this crunch;

(c) whether the State Government has been diverting the Central grants for other purposes than for which these were sought and provided;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken to ensure the proper use of the Central funds; and

(f) the amount involved in which the State has yet to provide the utilisation certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Finance Ministry releases Central Assistance for State plan allocated by the Planning Commission to all the States including J&K, in the shape of block grants and block

loans. Block grants and block loans including Special Central Assistance, released to the Government of J&K during the last three years and in the current year till date is as follows:

(Rs. In crore)		
Year	Block grants	Block loans
96-97	1636.36	279.51
97-98	2034.83	224.89
98-99	2148.53	235.19
99-00	2399.34	267.60

State Government has been requesting this Ministry frequently for making advance release due to liquidity problems being faced by them on account of accumulated bills. Advance releases have been made to the State Government to enable them tide over their cash problem.

(c) to (f) For the releases made under the State Plan, the State Governments are accountable to their State Legislatures for proper utilization of funds through the State Audit Reports prepared by the CAG of India under Article 151(2) of the Constitution. However, if there is shortfall in plan expenditure as against approved/revised plan outlay, a proportionate cut is made from the central assistance released to the State. No shortfall in expenditure as against



plan outlay approved by the Planning Commission has been reported by the State Government in the recent years.

### Decontrol of Mining Sector

2477. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Disinvestment Commission has recommended in mining sector in 1998 to bring down the Government equity to 26 per cent and zero over a period of time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total Government equity brought down so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to decontrol the mining sector fully; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total Government equity brought down so far in respect of National Aluminum Company Limited (NALCO) is 87.15%; Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) is 76% and Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) is 98.92%. In rest of the public sector undertakings under the Department of Mines, 100% equity is with Government of India.

(d) and (e) Constitution empowers the Central Government to regulate mines and minerals development to the extent to which such regulation and development under the control of the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest. Amongst the non-strategic PSUs, there is no sector specific policy for disinvestment.

### Public Sector Undertakings headed by IAS Officers

2478. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public Sector Undertakings headed by IAS Officers;

(b) whether the Government propose to replace these IAS officers with professional experts to increase efficiency;

(c) if so, the details thereof,

(d) if not, for the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons for poor performance of Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) The names of public sector undertakings headed by IAS officers on a regular basis are furnished in the Statement enclosed. These do not include cases where interim or acting arrangements have been made.

(b) to (d) Officers are appointed in PSUs ordinarily on permanent absorption basis unless exemption is granted, keeping in view the needs of the PSU, the nature of its activities or non-availability of other suitable candidates for the post, health of the PSU etc. Further, appointments to Board level posts are made on tenure basis, save where interim arrangements need to be made, pending regular appointment.

(e) Out of 236 operating PSUs, 134 PSUs, earned profit and 100 PSUs incurred losses during the year 1997-98. The reasons for losses of the PSUs are enterprise specific. However, some of the common reasons are obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, low capacity utilisation, excess manpower, increase in input costs, resource crunch, heavy interest burden, etc.

### Statement

#### List of the PSUs headed by I.A.S. Officers of Regular Basis

Sl. No.	Name of the Public Sector Undertaking
1	2
1.	Export Credit Guarantee Corporation
2.	Food Corporation of India
3.	India Trade Promotion Organisation
4.	Indian Airlines Limited
5.	National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation
6.	National Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes Finance and Development Corporation

1	2
7.	National Textile Corporation Limited
8.	National Textile Corporation (APKK&M) Limited
9.	National Textile Corporation (WB, Assam, Bihar and Orissa) Limited
10.	North Eastern Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation Limited
11.	Rural Electrification Corporation Limited.

[Translation]

**World Bank Assistance To Bihar  
for Primary Education**

2479. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bihar Government has sought financial assistance for the World Bank in the field of Primary Education;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the proposal of the State Government;

(c) if so, the salient features of the proposed plan

(d) the steps being taken to forward the proposal to the World Bank; and

(e) the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be obtained from the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir, The World Bank assisted District Primary Education Programme is operational in Bihar since 1997-98 for a project span upto 2002-03. The programme is operational in 17 Educational Districts comprising of 27 revenue districts of Bihar. The total EFC cost of DPEP-III (Bihar) is of the order of Rs. 651.17 crores.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

**Films/Serials on Saint Guru Ghasi Dasji**

2480. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :  
SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for making feature films/serials on the life of great personalities/saints of the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal to make a feature film/serial on the life of great saint Guru Ghasi Dasji; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Government does not have any guidelines for making feature films/serials on the life of great personalities/saints of the country.

National Film Development Corporation Ltd., (NFDC) set up to promote good quality cinema in the country, does not have any separate guidelines for making feature films/serials on the life of great personalities/saints in the country. However, there are guidelines/bye-laws for applying loans for production of feature films, production and co-production of films, 100 per cent finance etc. in various languages.

Doordarshan also does not produce films. Films telecast on Doordarshan channels are obtained through private producers or NFDC on a minimum guaranteed revenue basis.

(b) and (c) Doordarshan has telecast a programme entitled "Sarguru Shri Ghasi Das Baba - A musical feature" produced by M/s Kala Darpan under the Royalty category from Raipur Kendra on 16.12.99. Doordarshan has also telecast its inhouse production titled "Sant Purush Baba Guru Ghasi Das" from both Bhopal and Raipur Kendra on 17.12.99. In addition to this DDK Raipur on 24.12.99 covered the birthday celebrations of the Sant in a weekly news-based programme "Hamare Aas Pass".

[English]

**Registration of Financial Companies**

2481. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by SEBI Chairman that the financial companies denied registration, should not be listed in the stock market; and

(b) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India has denied registration to some financial companies in the capital market;

(c) whether the shares of such companies have increased their value price in the recent period; and

(d) the names of such companies and the extent of rise in their share price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The Reserve bank of India has rejected the applications for registration of 1468 Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs). SEBI has advised all stock exchanges to obtain information for all such listed companies. The exchanges have been asked to take appropriate action including issue of show cause notice to companies which had not given correct and complete information in time. The exchanges were further directed to disseminate the correct information to investors/market participants. SEBI has cautioned investors, by way of press releases, to exercise caution while transacting in securities.

(c) and (d) The pattern of price rise on the stock markets is widespread and is not limited to such scrips.

#### Industry of National Importance

2482. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give exports as the status of industry of national importance;

(b) if so, the time by which a decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The Government recognizes exports as a national priority and is striving to give maximum thrust to export promotion activities through Budgetary and Exim Policy measures, various multilateral and bilateral initiatives besides special commodity and regional thrust.

[Translation]

#### Contract for Mining to Foreign Companies

2483. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mining contract for Dev Bhog mines in Madhya Pradesh has been awarded to the foreign companies;

(b) if so, the names of such foreign companies;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities committed in the procedure for awarding contracts to these foreign companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(f) the criteria being adopted by the Union Government to award contracts to the foreign companies;

(g) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has followed the criteria fully; and

(h) if not, the reaction of the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) No, Sir. Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Companies Act, 1956 can be granted a mining lease for exploitation of minerals. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a foreign company is not allowed to undertake mining operations.

(b) to (h) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Privatisation of CCI

2484. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees unions have protested against the Government's move to privatise some units of Cement Corporation of India (CCI) and urged the Government to review the decision; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Some Employees Unions of CCI had, represented to the Government as well as BIFR against the proposed sale of certain unviable units of the Company and urged that

the units be revived with Government support. Since CCI already stands referred to BIFR under the provisions of SICA, decision on the matter is dependent on BIFR's orders regarding revival of the Company.

#### **Tobacco Stock in Andhra Pradesh**

2485. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have agreed to take necessary steps to buy the accumulated tobacco stocks in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the State Government have drawn the attention of the Union over the problem faced by farmers in the State due to the accumulation of stocks in the State Trading Corporation; and

(c) if so, to what extent the Union Government propose to help the tobacco farmers of the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Auctions of tobacco has commenced in Andhra Pradesh at the auction platforms of Tobacco Board on 22nd February, 2000 and a meeting has been held with the bankers who have been asked to provide credit lines to the traders to facilitate marketing of tobacco. Efforts are on to find out new markets for export of tobacco from Andhra Pradesh. A delegation of 6 members recently visited Libya, Jordan, Egypt and Algeria in February, 2000 to promote Indian exports of tobacco in these countries. Another delegation of tobacco exporters is proposed to visit Russia shortly.

#### **Export of Tobacco**

2486 SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to help tobacco dealers in disposing of their huge stocks lying unsold by involving State Trading Corporation to export stocks; and

(b) if so, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Opening of Banks**

2487. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of existing rules laid down for opening various types of banks;

(b) whether any requests have been received for opening the banks in Chandrapura, Bokaro and Kutumba-Amba district of Bihar during 1998-99;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Details of the existing policy relating to opening different types of banks are given below:-

#### **(i) Private Sector Banks**

RBI considers grant of licences to applicants intending to set up new banks in the private sector in accordance with the guidelines dated 22nd January, 1993 issued in this regard. The Minimum capital requirement for setting a commercial bank in the private sector is Rs. 100 crore out of which a minimum of Rs. 40 crore is to be contributed by the promoters. While permitting the entry of new private sector banks, the following considerations are kept in view:-

- They sub-serve the underlying goal of financial sector reforms, which are to provide competitive efficient and low-cost financial intermediation services for the society at large.
- They are financially viable.
- They should result in upgradation of technology in the banking sector.
- They avoid short-comings such as unfair pre-emption and concentration of credit, monopolisation of economic power, cross holdings with industrial groups etc.

#### **(ii) Foreign Banks**

RBI considers request from foreign banks for opening of maiden branches in India, under Section 22 of the

Banking Regulation Act, 1949 keeping in view the following criteria :-

- Financial soundness of the Bank
- International and home country ranking
- Rating
- Economic and trade relations between the two countries.
- The home country regulations and supervisory control
- Home country regulator's approval for opening of the branches in India.

A minimum capital requirement for opening maiden branch is US\$ 10 million and additional capacity, further US\$ 10 million for opening second branch and US\$ 5 million for opening third and subsequent branches.

### (iii) Local Area Banking in Private Sector

With a view to provide institutional mechanism for promoting rural saving as well as for the provision of credit for viable economic activities in the local areas, RBI considers the application for setting up of local areas banks. The minimum paid up capital for such a bank is Rs. 5 crore. The promoters contribution for such a bank shall be at least Rs. 2 crore. The Bank will operate in a maximum three geographical contiguous districts and the Head office of the Bank will be located at the centre of the area of operation of the bank. These banks are expected to bridge the gap in credit availability and enhance the institutional credit frame work in the rural and semi urban areas.

(b) No request appears to have been received for opening new banks in Chandrapura, Bokaro, Kutumba-Amba districts of Bihar during 1998-99 in private sector or by foreign banks.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

### Closure of Plants of Hindustan Zinc Limited

2488. SHRI NAMDEO HARBARI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Zinc Limited is contemplating to close down some of its plants as the cost of pollution control machine is prohibitively high;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether lowering of import duty on Lead has badly affected the domestic industry which is on the brink of closure; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken to protect domestic Lead Industry from closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA. VERMA) : (a) and (b) Operation of lead smelter of Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) at Visakhapatnam has been stopped with effect from 1.8.1999 due to prohibitive cost of meeting pollution control measures and economic unviability.

(c) and (d) Domestic lead industry has been affected mainly due to low grade of ore in the country and steep decline in London Metal Exchange (LME) price for lead from US \$ 737 per tonne in 1991 to US \$ 451 per tonne in February 2000. Further, it is affected by environmental considerations peculiar to this industry, which are gaining momentum internationally. Prof. Raja J. Chelliah Committee appointed by the Government for tax reforms had, inter alia, recommended in 1993 that the customs duty on import of lead should be reduced to 20% by 1997-98. Presently, the basic customs duty on import of lead is 35%, there is surcharge of 10% and Special Additional Duty (SAD) of 4%, thus aggregating to 49.5%. Import of lead concentrate has been put on the Open General Licence (OGL) to increase availability of raw material for primary producers of lead. Moreover, in order to increase production of lead through the secondary route in an environmentally sound manner the Government has decided, inter alia, that with effect from the 31st December, 1999, only such units which are actual users and enlisted with Ministry of Environment and Forests shall be allowed to participate in the auctions of old/used lead-acid batteries by various public/private and Government (State/Central/Union Territories) organisation.

### Sick Mines in Orissa

2489. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of iron ore, manganese and bauxite mines fallen sick in Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether some chromite mines have recently been closed down in Orissa;

(c) if so, the details of those mines;

(d) whether a large number of workers have been thrown out of employment following the closure of these mines; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide them alternative employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) There is no provision in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 for furnishing information by the mine owners on sick mines. However, the number of iron ore, manganese ore and bauxite mines temporarily discontinued in the State of Orissa during the last three years is as follows:

Mineral	No. of mines temporarily discontinued during last three years.
1. Iron Ore	8
2. Manganese Ore	7
3. Bauxite	1
Total:	16

(b) and (c) As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate organisation under Department of Mines, no chromite mines have recently been closed down in the State of Orissa. However, five chromite mines have been temporarily discontinued in Orissa.

(d) and (e) The Government has no specific scheme for revival of mines which have been closed or temporarily discontinued or for providing alternative employment to the affected employees. However, where the closure or temporary discontinuance is due to lack of demand, it is felt that steps taken to liberalise the economy and increase in industrial production would result in increasing demand for minerals and to make operations of such mines economical.

#### New Assesseees

2490. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed for inclusion of new Income tax assesseees during the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, whether the target has been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the further steps taken to fix realistic target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. No specific targets were fixed for the number of assesseees to be added during the current financial year. A total number of 23,61,271 new assesseees have been added till 31.1.2000. The tax base of the country has already crossed the 20 million mark in October, 1999 and the total number of assesseees in the country as on 31.1.2000 stands at 20.59 million.

#### Export of Iron Ore

2491. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of Iron ore procured from Karnataka for export during last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there has been a sharp decline in the procurement of Iron ore from the state:

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the procurement and export of Iron ore from Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The total quantum of Iron ore procured from Karnataka for export by MMTC during the last three years is as under :-

(Quantity in Lakh Tonnes)	
Year	Procurement
1997-98	67.87
1998-99	57.50
1999-2000 (Provisional)	60.00

(b) and (c) The decline in the procurement of iron ore from Karnataka during 1998-99 was due to the following reasons:

(i) MMTC's procurement of iron ore from Karnataka is directly related to the quantum of export to be made during each year. On account of recession in the steel industry world over, the decline in export took place due to the lesser intake by Japanese and South Korean Steel Mills.

(ii) Other reason for decline in MMTC's procurement of iron ore is that Govt. of India has allowed the mine-owners of Karnataka to export directly.

Direct export of 7.19 and 12.05 lakh tonnes of iron ore from Karnataka have taken place during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto 7.3.2000) respectively.

(d) The following steps have been taken to increase the procurement and export of Iron ore from Karnataka:

- (i) MMTC have been making continuous efforts to develop new markets for export, and enhancing competitiveness by cost reduction and greater emphasis on quality. The emerging Chinese market has been tapped for export of low/medium grade lumps and high grade/low grade fines.
- (ii) MMTC has long-term contracts with the Japanese and South Korean Steel Mills which are valid upto 31.3.2001. Long term agreement is proposed to be further extended by five years with Japan and South Korea.
- (iii) Efforts are being made to enter new markets like Taiwan.
- (iv) Government has increased the ceiling for export of High Grade Fines from Karnataka.

#### Interest Rate on Bank Loans

2492. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether even after lowering of rate of interest on loans by the RBI, the nationalized banks are giving loan on higher rate of interest; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Banks decide their Prime Lending Rates (PLRs) in the light of factors such as cost of funds, transaction costs and also interest rates prevailing in other sectors etc. The Reserve Bank of India have last reduced the bank rate from 9 per cent to 8 per cent with effect from March 1, 1999. The PLRs of nationalized banks which were in the range of 12 to 14 per cent in March 1999 has subsequently declined to 12 to 13.5 per cent by February 2000.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Upliftment of IFCI

2493. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IFCI chief has ruled out its merger with IDBI;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the hurdles being faced by IFCI in its upliftment; and

(d) the steps proposed in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to merge IFCI Ltd. with Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).

(c) IFCI has reported that major problems being faced by them in upliftment of their operations are high cost of borrowings, high level of non-performing assets (NPAs) and low capital adequacy ratio.

(d) IFCI has reported that in order to overcome the problems, several steps are being taken which inter-alia include aggressive restructuring of NPAs, improvement of liquidity, increasing the share of fee based income, greater focus on short term products in the form of Bill Discounting and working capital etc.

#### MPEDA

2494. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has conducted any survey of all export-oriented aquaculture exists in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the acreage of tanks identified as export oriented aquaculture in the State;

(c) whether any technical assistance has been offered by MPEDA to these exists; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by MPEDA to assist aquaculture development in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The steps being taken by MPEDA in the State of Andhra Pradesh for assisting development of aquaculture include, inter-alia, extension of financial assistance for establishment of hatcheries and development of new shrimp farms, advising farmers to adopt preventive

measures for checking disease in shrimp farms, setting up PCR/Dot Blot testing facilities for selecting disease free seeds, monitoring farmers ponds to provide technical assistance for following proper management practices, organising training programmes, farmers meets, demonstration programmes, keeping farmers aware of the market trends and monitoring the residue levels of pesticides and antibiotics in cultured shrimp.

#### **Merger of IFCI with ICICI**

2495. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether IFCI is weighed down by a huge N.P.A. account;
- (b) if so, the extent to which IFCI would require additional funding to offset losses;
- (c) whether any proposal has been worked out for merger of IFCI with ICICI or other financial institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) IFCI Ltd. has reported that as on 31st March 1999 the net Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of IFCI were Rs. 4230.7 crore constituting 21.44% of total loan assets. IFCI requires Rs. 400 crore to improve its Capital base.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to merge IFCI Ltd with any financial institution including ICICI Ltd.

#### **Import of Rice From Pakistan**

2496. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether traders in coastal States find it cheaper to import rice from Pakistan than procuring from local markets;
- (b) if so, whether more than 50,000 tonnes has already been contracted by traders in Mumbai for sale in the markets of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) whether the Government permits free import of 50% and above broken rice;
- (d) if so, whether due to the bumper crops, Government propose to stop the import of rice; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop the import of rice from Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) In the absence of information on the varieties traded and consumer preferences prevailing it would be inaccurate to confirm that imported Pakistan rice is cheaper than rice procured from local markets.

(b) Data on import contracts of rice entered into by traders is not maintained.

(c) As per EXIM Policy, import of rice is canalised through FCI. Import of common/coarse varieties of rice, with 50% or more broken is currently on OGL w.e.f. 27.5.97.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The concerned have been directed to step up inspections to verify-ensure that the varieties being imported are only common/coarse and that the broken percentages are 50% or more.

[Translation]

#### **Export of Ornaments**

2497. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :  
YOGI ADITYA NATH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether gold and silver ornaments are exported at large scale;
- (b) if so, the names of such countries to which ornaments have been exported during each of the last three years;
- (c) the foreign exchange earned on this account;
- (d) whether the Government are contemplating to increase the export of gold and silver ornaments; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) As per the export figures provided by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), total exports of gems and jewellery during 1998-99 was of the order of US\$ 6212 Million and share of gold and silver ornaments in this total exports of gems and jewellery was US\$ 846.15 Million and US\$ 58 Million respectively.

(b) The major markets for the export of the Indian gold and silver ornaments during each of the last three years have been; The United States of America, Kuwait,



The United Arab Emirates, Hongkong, Singapore, The United Kingdom.

(c) Value of the foreign exchange earned during each of the last three years through export of gold and silver ornaments is as under:

(Value in US\$ Million)

Years	Gold Ornaments	Silver Ornaments
1996-97	511.80	15.14
1997-98	802.97	24.75
1998-99	846.15	58.00

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta for 1996-97 and 1997-98 and Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai for 1998-99, Mumbai.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) It has been the continuous endeavour of the Government to increase the exports of gold and silver ornaments by way of introducing new policy initiatives by modifying the existing Exim Policy to enable the exporters to meet the global requirements. Some of the important policy initiatives introduced w.e.f. 1st April, 1999 to increase exports of gold and silver ornaments are: (i) Permission to Export Oriented Units (EOUs)/Export Processing Zone (EPZ) units to import plain gold/platinum/silver jewellery for repairs/re-make and subsequent export subject to earning a minimum Net Foreign Exchange Percentage (NFEP) of 7.5%; (ii) Permission for Personal Carriage of gems and jewellery parcels by foreign buyers from all EOUs and EPZ units and also from the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) units located in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai; (iii) Permission for export of gems and jewellery items by courier from selected ports upto a value of Rs. 20 lacs per consignment; (iv) Permission for duty free import of consumables required by jewellery and diamond processing industries to the extent of 1% of the FOB value of gems and jewellery exports in the preceding year; (v) Rationalisation of Value Addition norms for 'Bangles' made by fully mechanised process and ornaments like 'Mangalsutra'; (vi) Permission for export of samples made in wax models, silver models and rubber moulds under intimation to Development Commissioner provided their value does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000/- in a year; (vii) Permission to EOUs/EPZ units to send scrap/dust/sweepings

of gold to Private Mints also, apart from Government of India Mint, for refining and subsequent conversion into standard gold bars. Besides, such scrap/dust/sweepings of gold can be sold in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) also on payment of applicable Customs duty on the basis of gold content, as may be notified by the Customs.

[English]

### Order for Wagons

2498. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether revival schemes of Jessop, Braithwaite and Burn Standard are not taking off due to inadequate orders for Wagons.

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken by the Government to ensure adequate wagon orders to these Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) The revival schemes of Jessop, Braithwaite and Burn Standard are not progressing as expected on account of lack of wagon orders and for other products, low productivity, surplus manpower, etc. Wagon orders available with these PSUs are less than targetted as per details below:

PSU	BIFR Target	Order available
Burn Standard Company Limited	4437.5	3910.0
Jessop and Company Limited	1800.0	420.0
Braithwaite and Company Limited	3075.0	2520.0

(Figures are in Four Wheeler Units)

(c) The Ministry is continuously taking up the issue of placement of adequate wagon orders on these PSUs with the Railways

### Disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings

2499. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fertilizer Units of Rourkela Steel Project and National Fertilizers Ltd., Haryana are going to be disinvested;

(b) if so, the money likely to come from disinvestment; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interests of farmers while taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Government has decided to disinvest 51% of the equity of National Fertilizers Limited held by it. Government has also decided to initiate the process of disinvestment of the non-core assets of SAIL including Fertilizers Plant at Rourkela.

(b) No estimates regarding amount to be realised from disinvestment can be made.

(c) Disinvestment in NFL will not affect the interest of farmers.

#### **Committee to Review Sick Public Sector Undertakings**

2500. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI G.J.JAVIYA :  
SHRI M.V.V.S.MURTHI :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be please to state:

(a) Whether the Government propose to review or have reviewed the right of workers in sick Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Committee comprising the secretaries of Labour, Expenditure and Public Enterprise Departments for the purpose, has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (e) In regard to PSUs which are financially weak, government have been providing non-plan assistance to defray, inter-alia, the outgo on payment of wages and salaries to workers. Government have constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) to examine, inter-alia, proposals for: (i) Amendment to the

Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, (ii) New Legislation for Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service of Contract Labour in India and to make recommendations in respect of problems relating to payment of wages, salaries and statutory dues of employees of CPSUs, particularly the sick CPSUs.

A Standing Committee of Secretaries (COS) has been constituted to service the GOM. This Committee held its first meeting on 14.2.2000. The recommendations of the COS are to be submitted to the GOM.

#### **DD Channels for States**

2501. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow State Governments to have their own Doordarshan Channels to telecast the welfare programme sponsored by the States among other;

(b) whether some requests have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of West Bengal had made a proposal to start their own TV channel which could not be agreed to as it did not fall within the extent policy.

#### **New Industrial Policy**

2502. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Federation of Industries and Commerce of North Eastern region pointing out major drawbacks in the Industrial Policy for North East announced by the Government;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Federation of Industries and Commerce of North Eastern Region (FINER) have stated that non-availability of shed/land in notified areas and excise refund being limited to only cash payment and not full; MODVAT credit, are the major drawbacks in the policy.

(c) This Department has written to Planning Commission, Department of Revenue and Ministry of Home Affairs to offer their views on the observations/suggestions of FINER.

#### Zonal Office of SBI

2503. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is only one Zonal Office of State Bank of India for the entire Vidarbha Region causing considerable inconvenience to the people of Western Vidarbha;

(b) if so, the action taken to establish new Zonal Office and a Regional Office of SBI at Divisional Headquarter of State Bank of India in Amraoti in Western Vidarbha;

(c) the details of representations received in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for establishment of Zonal Office and a Regional Office at Amraoti?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. As reported by State Bank of India (SBI) there is only one Zonal Office of State Bank of India (SBI) for Vidarbha region located centrally at Nagpur. The banking requirements of Amraoti District are catered to by 36 branches of the bank. One senior officer of the bank has exclusive responsibility for Amraoti District.

#### Coal Production

(in million tonnes)

Company	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Target RE	Actual	Target RE	Actual	Target RE	Actual
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	31.50	29.65	32.50	27.42	27.00	27.16
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	29.50	27.13	30.70	30.92	27.40	27.17
Central Coalfields Ltd	32.80	32.18	33.50	33.08	33.10	32.18

(b) to (d) These is no proposal to open a Zonal Office or Regional office at Amraoti District. The bank had received a representation from the Amraoti Chamber of Commerce and Industries in January, 1996. The matter was examined by SBI and the request was not acceded to for the reason that the present network of branches and the administrative set up at Nagpur was considered adequate to meet all the banking needs in the area. This decision was communicated to the Amraoti Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

#### Performance of CIL

2504. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K.PATIL : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the current year in terms of target set and achieved as per MoU;

(b) if so, the subsidiary-wise details of performance during the last three years;

(c) the major emerging trends in terms of achievements as well as shortfalls; and

(d) the major problems identified and new strategies evolved to redress them alongwith the action plan formulated 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, each year, the Department of Coal signs a MOU with Coal India Limited (CIL) only and not with each of CIL's subsidiaries. The performance of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries are reviewed in terms of targets set in Annual Action Plan document prepared by the Department of Coal. The performance of CIL and its subsidiaries for the past three years is given below:-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	37.00	37.01	37.00	37.12	37.00	36.52
Western Coalfields Ltd.	29.70	31.23	30.50	32.52	32.00	31.75
South Eastern Coalfields Limited.	53.70	55.30	55.50	56.63	57.00	57.56
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	37.00	37.37	39.50	42.17	42.50	43.51
North Eastern Coalfields	0.80	0.75	0.80	0.69	00.60	00.64
Coal India Limited	252.00	250.62	260.00	260.55	256.60	256.49

**Plan Expenditure**

(Rs in crores)

Company	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Target RE	Actual	Target RE	Actual	Target RE	Actual
Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	190.00	273.09	150.00	173.68	115.00	131.23
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	215.00	213.85	168.00	158.62	110.00	172.02
Central Coalfields Ltd.	130.83	234.74	235.00	305.86	180.00	181.46
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	150.00	127.78	262.00	221.08	366.00	342.73
Western Coalfields Ltd.	170.00	228.91	300.00	291.77	280.00	359.82
South Eastern Coalfields Limited.	240.00	248.50	350.00	397.80	330.00	309.74
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	200.00	183.81	300.00	240.10	310.00	326.57
CMPDI and CIL	15.00	19.77	14.56	35.64	9.00	8.40
Total(CIL)	1310.83	1530.45	1779.55	1824.55	1700.00	1831.97

(c) and (d) CIL has achieved 99.45% (1996-97), 100.21%(1997-98) and 99.96% (1998-99) of its coal production targets. CIL achieved its targets of financial expenditure during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99.

The major problems being faced by CIL are as under:

- (i) Low offtake of coal mainly due to slower growth in coal based generation increase in import of coal/coke by industries mainly cement plants.
- (ii) Delays in land acquisition for new and on-going projects as well as acquisition of forest land.
- (iii) Recovery of coal sale dues is another area of concern. The total outstanding as on 31.3.1999 is Rs. 5799 crores, out of which power sector (SEB)'s share is Rs. 4806 crores.

- (iv) 3 subsidiary companies of CIL namely ECL, BCCL and CCL are continuously making losses.

However, to improve the performance of CIL further and to meet the future requirements in the country, the following thrust areas have been identified:

- (i) To open new mines and increase efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and to ensure timely availability of inputs and infra-structural facilities
- (ii) To take steps to remove the bottlenecks in land acquisition and forest land clearance for speedier implementation of coal projects.

- (iii) To take steps to securitise the outstanding coal sale dues of coal Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) against defaulting SEBs.
- (iv) To take step in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in coalfield areas having potential for enhanced production.
- (v) Apart from above Coal India Ltd. is making concerted efforts to reduce the production cost of coal by resorting to various measures viz. rationalisation of manpower, improvement in capacity utilisation, removal of bottlenecks in timely completion of coal projects, judicious planning, economy in expenditure, and maintaining good industrial relations.
- (vi) To take steps to improve the quality of coal through selective mining and beneficiation.
- (vii) To supplement the resources required for investment in new projects and infuse modern technology and management systems and practices by entering into joint venture for development of green field project.
- (viii) To intergrate environmental and social mitigation measures with mine development plans.

#### Disinvestment of NFL

2505. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to disinvest 51 percent equity in National Fertilizers Ltd;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith reasons therefor;
- (c) the extent to which this process of disinvestment is likely to boost the working and production of NFL; and
- (d) the manner in which the interest of the employees will be protected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Government have decided to disinvest a total of 51% of the NFL's equity held by the

Government through strategic sale to a strategic buyer together with transfer of management control. This is in accordance with the policy of bringing down Government equity in all non-strategic PSUs to 26% or less.

(c) The process of disinvestment and resultant dispersal of ownership will exert necessary pressure on the PSU to improve its performance, enhance efficiency, earn profits and declare dividends.

(d) Interest of the employees will be protected. The Finance Minister, in his recent budget speech, has reiterated this aspect.

#### Price Rigging in BSE

2506. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether massive price rigging in low caps stocks have taken place in Mumbai Stock Exchange;
- (b) if so, whether the companies which have no trading for the past two to four years, who quoted at Rs. 10 have zoomed to Rs. 20 to Rs. 120;
- (c) if so, whether the President of the Investors' Grievances Forum, represented to the Finance Ministry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the steps are being taken by SEBI, the Stock Exchanges and the Government;
- (e) whether the small investors are being cheated due to this price rigging;
- (f) if so, whether any enquiry has been ordered for such price rigging; and
- (g) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The rise in stock prices have been quite widespread due to the overall bullish sentiment in the stock markets and also due to global influence of stock markets, which have been on the rise. Further, a general expectation of positive economic performance and the expectation of increased interest of foreign investors in Indian markets have also played a role in the rise of stock prices in most sectors.

(c) to (g) The President of the Investors' Grievances Forum has represented to the Ministry of Finance in this regard. SEBI has informed that, from time to time, it has

alerted the stock exchanges to keep a close watch over the market and take proactive actions when required. The exchanges have informed SEBI of the various actions initiated by them including imposition of higher margins, reduction in circuit filters. SEBI has also cautioned investors by way of press releases to exercise caution and take care while transacting in securities.

#### **Reconstitution of Central Regional Censor Boards**

2507. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE:  
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING: be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are reconstituting Central Board of Film Certification and Regional Censor Boards—shortly on expiry of/termination of terms/filling of vacancies;

(b) if so, the guidelines for nomination of appropriate members on the respective Censor Board;

(c) the general complaints received regarding functioning of these Boards from the public and film industry; and

(d) the details of fresh initiatives taken or proposed to be taken for effective functioning of the Censor Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) and its advisory panels at regional centers are appointed by the Central Government for a tenure of 3 years and 2 years respectively or until further orders. The present Board and regional advisory panels have still not completed their tenure. As per the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, any person, who, in the opinion of the Central Government, is qualified to judge the effect of a film on the average audience, can be appointed as member of the Board or advisory panels of regional centers of CBFC.

(c) and (d) In view of some general complaints about the functioning of the Board, the following measures have been taken to ensure strict compliance of the certification guidelines:

(i) provision for 50% of the members of the examining and revising committees to be

women to bring greater gender awareness into the process;

(ii) issue of specific clarifications by the Board about the interpretation of frequently violated guidelines; and

(iii) showing of names of members of examining or revising committee/Film Certification Appellate Tribunal, on whose recommendations the film is cleared for public exhibition, on the certificate granted to the film thereby introducing greater accountability.

#### **Use of Public Funds**

2508. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has criticized the Centre and States for inefficient use of public funds and said that they were borrowing even for current expenditure like salaries and wages, subsidies and interest payments:

(b) if so, whether there is tremendous pressure on the Centre as almost all the State Governments are leading to insufficient funds for making the investment that are essential for the development of the economy: and

(c) if so, the remedial steps the Government propose to take in this regard?"

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Government and also the Planning Commission attach importance to the efficient use of plan expenditure. Planning Commission allocates funds to various Schemes and also monitors the implementation of the plan. In this context, concerns are also expressed by the Planning Commission on unhealthy trends observed while reviewing the finances of States at the time of finalising their Annual Plans.

It is a fact that current expenditure far exceeds current revenues for both the Centre and the States, which creates pressure on availability of funds for investment purposes. Large borrowings and mounting interest burden is a major item of current expenditure. The Governments need to reduce revenue deficit and also fiscal deficit for purposes of Fiscal Consolidation. Budget 2000-01 contains measures to contain the growth of revenue deficit and seeks to promote fiscal reforms in State also.

**Fraud Cases in Nationalised Banks**

2509. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of officers/employees of various nationalised banks in the country against whom cases have been registered for their involvement in committing frauds in the banks during the last three years bank-wise;

(b) the amount involved in these bank frauds, bank-wise;

(c) the action taken against them by the Government; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to check such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Statements showing the bank-wise position of action taken against the delinquent employees of public sector banks for their involvement in frauds and bank-wise details of number of frauds and amount involved therein during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 (upto June, 1999) as reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are given in Annexures I and II respectively.

(d) Banks are implementing comprehensive guidelines issued by RBI regarding prevention of frauds which inter-alia include strengthening of internal control mechanisms, review of fraud causes on continual basis, undertaking concurrent audit covering branches accounting for 50 per cent of bank's business, scrutiny of cash deposits and withdrawals of Rs. 10 lakhs and above, improving housekeeping and imparting training to operational personnel.

**Statement-I**

*Bank-wise action taken against the delinquent employees of Public Sector Banks for frauds during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 (upto June, 1999)*

Name of the Bank	Convicted				Awarded major/minor penalties				Out of (3) dismissed/discharged/removed			
	1996	1997	1998	1999*	1996	1997	1998	1999*	1996	1997	1998	1999*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
State Bank of India	37	34	22	07	221	306	344	29	51	75	65	09
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	00	06	08	00	07	15	09	01	02	04	04	00
State Bank of Hyderabad	00	00	00	00	13	12	07	07	03	02	00	03
State Bank of Indore	00	00	00	01	07	16	22	09	02	06	03	03
State Bank of Mysore	01	00	02	00	23	22	11	10	02	02	02	01
State Bank of Patiala	00	00	00	00	08	21	09	05	05	04	05	03
State Bank of Saurashtra	00	00	00	00	18	19	11	08	02	06	03	02
State Bank of Travancore	00	00	00	00	04	17	13	03	01	04	03	02
Allahabad Bank	00	01	00	00	17	54	25	22	01	04	08	08
Andhra Bank	00	06	04	00	36	30	44	13	11	15	16	08
Bank of Baroda	00	01	04	01	34	71	52	22	09	17	09	01
Bank of India	00	00	00	00	44	45	104	71	28	29	18	13
Bank of Maharashtra	00	00	00	00	34	35	57	23	14	09	18	04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Canara Bank	00	03	00	00	101	83	82	28	24	33	40	21
Central Bank of India	00	00	01	00	84	71	43	18	34	29	21	14
Corporation Bank	01	01	00	00	18	07	08	04	10	03	07	02
Dena Bank	00	00	00	00	25	41	101	51	08	13	14	11
Indian Bank	01	00	03	00	86	95	86	114	06	04	11	15
Indian Overseas Bank	00	00	01	00	32	53	35	22	12	11	23	16
Oriental Bank of Commerce	00	00	00	00	10	24	45	16	01	08	18	04
Punjab National Bank	00	00	01	01	220	243	376	227	36	24	47	30
Punjab & Sind Bank	02	03	01	01	26	30	44	25	07	05	04	04
Syndicate Bank	02	01	04	00	39	54	75	35	21	31	53	33
Union Bank of India	00	00	00	00	20	16	10	15	16	12	07	13
United Bank of India	00	00	00	00	15	27	35	13	07	07	05	06
UCO Bank	00	00	00	00	45	38	94	28	15	18	32	04
Vijaya Bank	02	01	04	00	20	41	53	20	03	13	18	07

\*(upto June, 1999)

(Data Provisional)

**Statement-II**

*Bank-wise number of frauds as reported by public sector banks to Reserve Bank of India and the amount involved therein during the years 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 (upto June, 99)*

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Bank	Number of Frauds				Amount involved			
	1996	1997	1998	1999#	1996	1997	1998	1999#
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
State Bank of India	468	391	474	215	30.87	92.28	157.70	12.60
	*7	*4	*2	*2	20.15	9.70	0.26	3.09
State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	13	17	06	09	0.42	2.52	0.02	3.78
State Bank of Hyderabad	36	24	35	22	12.87	2.29	2.57	39.99
State Bank of Indore	16	25	17	02	4.83	1.28	2.95	0.31
State Bank of Mysore	23	31	22	05	6.10	15.60	0.44	0.16
State Bank of Patiala	19	18	17	10	14.32	0.62	2.80	0.30



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
State Bank of Saurashtra	13	6	04	07	0.94	1.39	1.15	0.20
State Bank of Travancore	29	22	34	18	20.68	1.32	17.24	12.53
Allahabad Bank	59	44	46	15	68.06	0.61	1.21	0.12
Andhra Bank	37	41	61	20	2.01	4.89	8.34	1.91
Bank of Baroda	101	99	93	31	9.49	9.08	13.21	1.07
		*07	*03			0.22	0.10	
Bank of India	158	168	156	74	3.89	8.39	5.90	13.94
		*05	*05	*6		0.43	26.29	13.78
Bank of Maharashtra	34	39	30	10	0.80	1.40	0.28	0.18
Canara Bank	213	193	181	88	8.61	17.36	122.85	80.57
Central Bank of India	142	99	58	32	59.60	3.45	9.28	11.93
Corporation Bank	23	25	14	04	1.17	2.28	1.04	0.30
Dena Bank	27	41	28	13	0.70	40.14	6.27	27.62
Indian Bank	34	66	71	43	1.03	2.60	7.87	12.86
Indian Overseas Bank	49	49	47	26	1.13	2.02	3.43	0.87
Oriental Bank of Commerce	30	38	43	08	13.07	24.08	24.49	0.24
Punjab National Bank	66	62	42	33	15.19	7.95	19.77	13.01
Punjab & Sind Bank	24	16	31	03	2.52	1.10	1.57	9.58
Syndicate Bank	154	104	145	50	4.85	11.15	3.90	0.80
Union Bank of India	79	65	72	31	7.70	7.29	6.16	0.72
United Bank of India	33	32	40	16	6.91	0.60	0.88	1.02
UCO Bank	39	37	43	15	1.08	1.97	1.42	0.62
Vijaya Bank	28	28	35	05	0.35	15.98	31.59	3.43

\*Outside India. #upto June, 1999

(Data Provisional)

[Translation]

#### Reforms in the WTO Regime

2510. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
 SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :  
 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : ,  
 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought any reforms in the WTO regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the precise objects sought to be achieved thereby;

(c) the moves made and the steps taken by the government to secure such reforms; and

(d) the details of trade preferences enjoyed by developing countries under the GATT agreement are being denied or diluted under the WTO regime?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (b) India has been seeking reforms in the WTO regime by way of redressal of the existing asymmetries and inequities in several of the WTO Agreements, and the non-realization of expected benefits from Agreements such as textiles and agriculture by the developing countries in general and India in particular. India has also effectively articulated the manner in which the special and differential treatment provisions of the WTO Agreements have remained virtually inoperative and how, even in areas where developing countries acquire competitiveness, anti-dumping or anti-subsidies investigations are initiated in increasing numbers by the developed countries to deny them market access. India has also resolutely opposed moves to introduce linkages between labour and trade or any further widening of the environmental window under WTO agreements, as this may result in disguised protectionism affecting the market access of developing countries. The major objective to be achieved through these efforts is to bring the development dimension to the forefront, in order that the multilateral trading system subserves the stated objective of the WTO Agreements of "raising standards of living, ensuring full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand and expanding the production of trade in goods and services..."

(c) India has been following a two-pronged strategy in this regard. On the one hand, a national consensus on various issues as were raised in the preparatory process of the Third WTO Ministerial Conference, has been evolved in consultations with the major stakeholders, including industry, national level political parties and trade unions, research institutions, trade experts and civil society. On the other hand diplomatic initiatives were taken to garner support from like-minded countries, such as the SAARC, the G-15 Group comprising of seventeen countries and the G-77 Group of developing countries.

(d) During the earlier rounds of GATT, till the Kennedy Round, the developing countries were not expected to take on many of the obligations which devolved on many of the developed countries. However, under the Uruguay Round which gave birth to the WTO, developing countries have taken on substantial obligations on trade in goods, services and Intellectual Property Rights. The Special and Differential treatment provisions other than the provisions providing for a longer transition period or higher *de minimis* in favour of developing countries, as contained in most of the WTO Agreements, are only in the nature of 'best endeavour' provisions and

have not been faithfully implemented as these 'best endeavour' clauses cannot be enforced through the Dispute Settlement Mechanism of W.T.O.

#### Import of Rice

2511. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI :  
SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- whether rice or broken rice is being imported.
- if so, the details thereof;
- the quantum of import made during 1999-2000;
- the details of the countries from which imported alongwith the quantity thereof, separately;
- the rate at which it was imported;
- whether it affected the indigenous market; and
- if so, the reasons for this import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Exim Policy, import of rice is canalised through FCI. However, Import of common/coarse varieties of rice and rice, with 50% or more broken has been free with effect from 27.5.97. Details of rice imported during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
1997-98	54	6.16
1998-99	6213	568.96
1999-2000 (April'99 to Nov.'99)	2190	364.72

(Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) and (d) 2190 MT of rice has been imported from Australia during 1999-2000 valued at Rs. 3.63 crores. Further there has been an import of rice valued at Rs. 1.54 lakhs from German F. Rep. during 1999-2000.

(e) Rice was imported at the rate of Rs. 16700/- (approx.) per tonne during 1999-2000.

(f) The meagre imports are not likely to adversely affect the indigenous market.

(g) does not arise.

[English]

### Export Promotion Councils

2512. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- The details of the Leather Export Promotion Councils in various places in the Country;
- The performance of Indian Leather Industries during the last three years, Statewise; and
- The total export in terms of value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The Council for Leather Exports has been set up at the National Level with Head Office at Chennai. It has four regional offices at New Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Kanpur and an Extension Office at Agra.

(b) and (c) Exports of leather and leather products are monitored on an all India basis and not on State-wise basis. Performance of exports of leather and leather products during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

### Statement

#### Export of Leather and Leather Products

(Rs. in Crores - US\$ in Million)

Items	April-March 1996-1997		April-March 1997-1998		April-March 1998-1999	
	Rs.	US\$	Rs.	US\$	Rs.	US\$
Finished Leather	1068.77	301.06	1099.44	295.83	1131.64	268.99
Leather Goods	1044.54	294.24	1439.47	387.32	1830.49	435.10
Leather Garments	1506.5	424.37	1580.28	425.21	1572.82	373.85
Leather Footwear	1197.96	337.45	1047.68	281.90	1238.38	294.36
Footwear Components	790.72	222.74	893.73	240.48	1040.04	247.21
Saddlery & Harness	92.15	25.96	96.47	25.96	142.40	33.85
Total	5700.64	1372.74	6157.07	1429.38	6955.77	1653.36
Dollar Rate		35.4999		37.1648		42.0706

(Source : DGCI&S)

### Revival Plant for HMT

2513. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- whether the Government had prepared a Rs. 400 crore HMT revival plan;
- if so, the details of the proposed plan; and
- the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) A turnaround plan

of HMT has been drawn which envisages financial, manpower and organizational restructuring, infusion of funds, Government guarantee for working capital, etc. No specific time frame can be indicated in regard to implementation of the plan which is under the consideration of Government for expeditious decision.

[Translation]

### Economic and Social Development of Country

2514. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Government have adopted three point formula of optimum production, equal distribution and

balance consumption for economic and social development of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The Budget presented in the Parliament outlined the strategy for a sustained, equitable and job creating growth path of 7 to 8 per cent per year in order to banish the scourge of poverty from India within a decade. The Government is committed to accelerating the pace of economic reforms and to broadening their scope. It will be Government's endeavour to ensure that the poor and the deprived have an even greater stake in economic reforms than at present so as to remove social and regional imbalances in development. The salient features for economic development will be:

- Strengthen the foundations of growth of rural economy especially agriculture and allied activities.
- Nurture the revolutionary potential of the new knowledge-based industries such as infotech, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.
- Strengthen and modernise traditional industries.
- To remove infrastructure bottlenecks in power, roads, ports telecom, railways and airways.
- To enhance rapid growth of exports, higher foreign investment and prudent external debt management; and
- To strive for fiscal discipline.
- Accord the highest priority to human resource development e.g. education, health and other social services, with special emphasis on the poorest and weakest sections of society.

The central plan outlay on major schemes of social sectors and rural development has been raised to Rs. 23,286 crore in the current budget from Rs. 20,643 crore in 1999-2000 (RE) (Table). The central plan outlay for education has been enhanced by 24 per cent, for health and family welfare by 17 per cent, and welfare of weaker sections by 16.5 per cent in (BE) over 1999-2000 (RE).

### Statement

#### Central Plan Outlay for Major Schemes of Social Sectors and Rural Development

Ministry/Department/Scheme	(Rs. Crores)	
	1999-2000 (RE)	2000-2001 (BE)
1. Education (Elementary Education and Literacy and Secondary and Higher Education)	4385	5449
2. Health (including I.S.M. & H.), Family Welfare and Women and Child Development	5432	6358
3. Welfare (Social Justice and Empowerment)	1159	1350
4. Rural Development, Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation#	9351	9760
5. Other Programmes viz.,		
a. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)	190	201
b. Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)⊙	126	168
Total Central Plan Outlay on Major Schemes on Social Sectors (1 to 5)	20643.00	23286.00

# From 1999-2000, it includes allocation for three departments viz. Rural Development, Land Resources and Drinking Water Supply.

⊙ Is a rationalised version of the erstwhile schemes of Urban Basic Services, NRY and PM's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme.

### Demand and Supply of Textiles

2515. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH : Will the State Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply ratio of textiles in the country; and

(b) the details of the proposals pending with the Union Government to set up new textile mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The production of textiles i.e. textile yarn and fabrics since 1991-92 has grown at an annual compound rate of 10.6 per cent and 6.7 per cent respectively to meet the growing demand, apart from exports.

(b) The Union Government acts as a facilitator for the Setting up of textile mills in the country within the framework of Government Policy.

[English]

#### MIFF-2000

2516. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :  
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan has failed to cover the MIFF-2000 live at Mumbai in the recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to tone up the functioning of Doordarshan to compete with other private channels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) it has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that inaugural function of MIFF-2000 was covered live on DD-I on 5.2.2000 from 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. However, due to programme exigencies, the closing function could not be covered live on DD-I/DD-II. The recording of the closing function was telecast on DD News Channel at 11.02 p. m. on 10.2.2000.

(c) Prasar Bharati have intimated that it is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to bring about qualitative improvement in its programmes to sustain viewers' interest and to make them attractive so as to enable them to successfully compete with the programmes telecast on private channels. Changes have been made in the Fixed point Chart to include a wide variety of programming. Presentation and transmission of programmes has also been done in sleek and professional manner with a view to attract better viewership. For improving the quality of signals for better reception by

viewers, digitalized transmission has been started in satellite mode.

#### German Interest in Boosting Indian Textiles

2517. DR. SHRIMATI C. SUGUNA KUMARI :  
DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Messe Frankfurt, the leading German show organisers has shown interest in boosting Indian textiles in global market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to participate in Frankfurt trade fair as well as other foreign venues to further open market for textiles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Messe Frankfurt have entered into a joint venture with India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) for jointly organising Heimtextil Tex-Styles India October, 2000 fair at New Delhi for promotion of Indian textiles.

(c) Various Textile Export Promotion Councils are already participating in the Heimtextil Fair as well as other important International Trade Fairs.

#### Setting up of Free Trade Zone by India and Singapore

2518. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :  
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Singapore have decided to set up a Free Trade Zone;

(b) if so, whether both the countries have decided to set up a joint task force to work out modalities for creating an Asian Free Trade Zone;

(c) if so, whether any concrete measures in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

**Development of Social and  
Infrastructure Sections**

2519.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering for the development of much neglected social and infrastructure sectors;

(b) if so, the steps which have been taken into consideration to develop the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The 2000-2001 Budget presented in the Parliament outlined the strategy for a sustained, equitable and job creating growth path of, 7 to 8 per cent per year in order to banish the scourge of poverty from India within a decade and, has accorded highest priority to strengthening the rural economy and, to human economic development to achieve this objective.

A new scheme "Janashree Bima Yojana" in order to extend social security cover to poorer sections of the society has been introduced. There is a new initiative in elementary education which will be called "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan" for universalisation of elementary education. The "National Literacy Mission" (NLM) will be revamped to raise literacy rate to 75 per cent by 2005.

Spending on social sector has been rapidly stepped up during the past few years as shown in the Statement. The Central Plan allocations for social sectors and poverty alleviation programmes have increased from Rs. 9374 in 1993-94 (BE) to Rs. 20,643 crore in 1999-2000 (RE) and further to Rs. 23,286 crore in 2000-2001 (BE). Besides, a sum of Rs. 5000 crore, as central assistance to States/UTs has been provided for Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana in 2000-2001 (BE) for basic needs Primary Education, Health Care, Drinking Water, Housing and Rural Roads.

Government has opened almost all infrastructure sectors for Private participation including foreign investment.

Government has also extended tax holiday to most of infrastructure sectors.

**Statement**

*Central Plan Outlay for Major Schemes of Social  
Sectors and Rural Development*

(Rs crore)			
Ministry/Department/ Scheme	1998-99 (RE)	1999-2000 (RE)	2000-01 (BE)
1. Education (Elementary Education and Literacy and Secondary and Higher Education)	4045	4385	5449
2. Health Including I.S.M. and H.	981	1062	1378
3. Family Welfare	2253	3120	3520
4. Women and Child Development	1134	1250	1460
5. Welfare (Social Justice & Empowerment)	1147	1159	1350
6. Rural Development, Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation*	9345	9351	9760
7. Other Programmes viz.,			
(a) Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)	136	190	201
(b) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY)®	162	126	168
<b>Total Central Plan Outlay on Major Schemes on Social Sectors (1 to 7)</b>	<b>19203.00</b>	<b>20643.00</b>	<b>23286.00</b>

\* From 1999-2000, it includes allocation for three departments viz. Rural Development, Land Resources and Drinking Water\* Supply.

® Is a rationalised version of the erstwhile schemes of Urban Basic Services, NRY and PM's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme.

### Import of Tea

2520. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

SHRI DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

DR. SANJAY PASWAN:

SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import tea during this year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of demand and supply of tea in the country during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have received any representation from the tea exporters regarding import of tea should be allowed in such a way that it actually encourage greater exports, particularly value added variety;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is great demand of Indian Teas in U.K. and certain other parts of Europe; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to tap the foreign market for tea export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir. Government do not propose to import tea directly.

(c) The details of demand and supply of tea in the country during the last three years were as follows:

(in Mn. kgs)

Year	Opening stock	Production	Export	Domestic consumption
1997	(+) 100.21	810.61	203.00	633
1998	(+) 74.40	870.40	210.34	645
1999	(+) 89.88	805.61	190.18	655

(Source: Tea Board)

(d) and (e) Import of tea is allowed only against import licence subject to the conditions of re-export and achievement of minimum value addition under the Duty Exemption Scheme and EOU/EPZ Scheme. However, Government have permitted free import of tea from SAARC Countries in order to give a fillip to intraregional trade.

(f) and (g) Yes Sir. With the view to promote export of tea and to tap foreign markets, Government and the Tea Board have been analysing country-wise exports of tea giving special attention to areas offering potential. Tea Board also acts to remove bottlenecks in exports to individual markets whenever these are noticed. Certain other steps taken to increase exports of tea include:-

- participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad;
- field sampling at speciality stores and in principal markets.
- media campaign to increase consumer awareness of the speciality of Indian teas and to popularise the Tea Board marketing symbol which stands for pure Indian tea.
- exchange of tea delegations between India and tea importing countries.

### Entry of Banks and FIs in Insurance Sector

2521. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL :

SHRI MANJAY LAL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI have issued guidelines on the entry of banks and financial institutions into the insurance sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have permitted foreign companies to enter in the insurance business and restricted the entry of banks and other financial institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the justification thereof; and

(e) the terms and conditions on which foreign companies are being given permission for investment in insurance sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) With a view to assessing the scope, desirability and eligibility of institutions to take up insurance business, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued draft guidelines for entry of banks/financial institutions, keeping in view the provisions of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) Act, 1999 and in order to ascertain the views of Banks and financial institutions (FIs).

(c) to (e) The entry of entities into insurance business is to be governed by the provisions of IRDA Act, 1999. It lays down the categories of the participants, the extent up to which they can participate in the equity of business and also the terms and conditions for carrying on the business. Foreign companies are permitted under the Act to have the aggregate holdings of equity shares either by itself or through its subsidiary companies or its nominees not exceeding 26% of the paid up equity capital of an Indian Insurance Company. The provisions of the Act, the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder would determine in what manner banks can undertake the activity. Banks can undertake any business as permitted by Government in terms of Section 6 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

[Translation]

#### Profit from Advertisement

2522. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to State:

(a) the profits earned by the Doordarshan from advertisements during each of the last three years, Doordarshan Kendra-wise; and

(b) the amount spent on maintenance and modernisation/renovation of these Doordarshan Kendras during the said period, particularly in Maharashtra.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Details of gross commercial revenue earned by Doordarshan (Kendra-wise) during 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are annexed.

(b) Expenditure incurred on modernisation and replacement of equipment under Studios sub-head in respect of various Doordarshan Kendras is as under:

Year	Expenditure in lakhs
1996-97	Rs. 1432.00
1997-98	Rs. 4520.88
1998-99	Rs. 1680.61

Similar details in respect of Maharashtra are as follows:

Year	Expenditure in lakhs			
1996-97	Rs. 43.03			
1997-98	Rs. 47.86			
1998-99	Rs. 51.88			

  

Statement				
Gross Revenue Earned by Doordarshan Kendras				
Sl. No.	Name of Kendra	1996-97 Rs. in crores	1997-98 Rs. in crores	1998-99 Rs. in crores
1.	National Network	283.55	263.88	211.55
2.	DD-2/Metro	102.74	93.79	73.51
3.	DD-International	0.00	0.54	0.47
4.	Delhi LPT	18.04	4.93	5.81
5.	Ahmedabad	3.14	1.90	2.78
6.	Bangalore	26.28	21.97	13.73
7.	Bhopal	0.89	0.97	1.81
8.	Bhubaneshwar	2.37	2.05	2.01
9.	Calcutta	17.75	15.58	16.80
10.	Guwahati	0.90	0.96	0.98
11.	Hyderabad	24.13	18.10	14.62
12.	Jaipur	0.93	0.92	1.21
13.	Jalandhar	2.46	2.50	5.02
14.	Lucknow	3.53	2.80	3.10
15.	Mumbai	26.17	14.49	14.25
16.	Patna	0.30	0.64	1.20
17.	Chennai	42.83	27.64	14.70
18.	Trivandrum	16.71	16.60	15.31
19.	Srinagar	0.00	0.09	0.46
20.	Gorakhpur	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Jammu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		572.72	490.00	399.32



[English]

**Import of Jute and Jute Goods**

2523. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the jute goods were imported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000, indicating the amount spent thereon;

(b) whether raw jute is also imported;

(c) if so, the quantity and price per M.T. thereof, and

(d) the impact of such import on our economy, industry and agricultural sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The total value of jute goods imported by India from Bangladesh during the last 2 years is as under:

Year	Quantity (M.Ton)	Value (Rs.in lakh)
1998-1999	1297.00	203.55
1999-2000	6193.00	1033.00

(b) and (c) At present there are no quantitative restrictions on import of raw jute. However, import duty @ 5% on import of raw jute has been introduced in the budget of 1999-2000. The total import of raw jute into the country in the last 2 years have been as under.

Year	Quantity
1998-1999	9.00
1999-2000	5.00 (estimated)

(d) The total import of jute goods from Bangladesh in comparison to the total domestic production is only 0.4% of the total production of jute goods in India. The import of raw jute accounts for less than 6% of the total domestic production of raw jute and mainly consists of such grades and varieties of fine and high grade fibre, not produced in India which is used to manufacture value added diversified jute products meant for exports. The import of jute and jute goods thus does not have a significant impact on the economy in general and domestic jute sector, in particular.

**Approval to Reader's Digest Association by FIPB**

2524. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Foreign Investment Promotion Board has accorded approval to Reader's Digest Association Inc. regarding hundred percent owned company to publish the periodicals;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Information and Broadcasting Ministry has raised objections in this regard; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has not supported the proposal as the present policy of investment in print media does not allow foreign ownership of newspapers/periodicals.

**Export of Rice**

2525. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there has been decline in the export of rice;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity and value of export of Basmati and non-basmati rice during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government propose to conduct any survey to ascertain whether the rice importing countries have begun importing rice from other nations; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The total quantity and value of Basmati and non-basmati rice exported during the last 3 years is as under:-

Quantity: lakh metric tonnes

Value: in Rs. crores

Year (April-March)	Basmati Rice		Non-basmati rice	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1996-97	5.23	1247.64	19.89	1924.72
1997-98	5.93	1685.62	17.96	1685.38
1998-99 (Prov)	6.01	1866.25	43.40	4334.55
Apr-Nov, 99 (Prov.)	3.78	1155.77	7.38	827.53
Apr-Nov, 98	3.84	1191.05	28.21	2824.34

(Source: DGCI&amp;S, Calcutta)

The exports of rice would depend upon International demand and supply position, domestic demand and supply position, international and domestic prices, consumer preferences, and varieties traded. Low international demand and better crop production in rice consuming countries has led to the shrinking of Indian rice exports during the current financial year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Import/Export of Pulses**

2526 SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether pulses were exported as well as imported during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the quantum of pulses exported and imported during the above period alongwith the amount of foreign exchange spent on such imports and the foreign exchange earned by such exports; and

(c) the reasons for allowing the export of pulses by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The total export and import of pulses during the current financial year (April-Nov, 99) are as follows:-

Exports (Prov.)		Imports (Prov.)	
Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1,26,951	277.07	1,37,339	183.24

(Source: DGCI&amp;S, Calcutta)

(c) The Export Import policy regarding agricultural products is governed principally by the concerns of India's food security, maximising farm incomes, earning foreign exchange and to augment domestic availability. The variety of pulses available for export in consumer packs and the attractive unit value realisation dictates that exports be allowed. The export policy enjoins the exporters to export pulses in consumer packs of not more than 5 Kgs each.

[English]

**Loan assistance to Sea Food Industries**

2527. SHRI K. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide loan to Sea Food Industries at lower rate of interest through Banks and Financial Institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority has been authorised to look after this industry on behalf of the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have set up a Special Task Force for examining the credit requirements of the seafood industry and also approved a separate study to be conducted by the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta on restructuring of working capital finance and structuring term loan requirements of marine products export sector and recommend necessary measures.

(c) and (d) as per the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act 1972, MPEDA is responsible for the development of marine products industry with special reference to exports. The measures envisaged under the MPEDA Act include, inter-alia, developing and regulating off-shore and deep-sea fishing, fixing standards and specifications for marine products for exports, regulating the export of marine products and registering

exporters of marine products. Some of the steps taken by the MPEDA for boosting the exports of marine products from India include, inter-alia, implementation of schemes for procurement of equipment/machinery, development of new farms, conducting market research/survey, conducting demonstration programmes for propagating eco-friendly aquaculture, propagating diversified aquaculture, promoting exports of value added items and conducting extension and training programmes for different segments of marine products industry.

### Export of Indian Films

2528. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a big threat to Indian Cinema from the dubbed versions of Hollywood films;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate a legislation to prohibit Hollywood films from being dubbed into Indian languages;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a big demand of Indian films in the foreign market;

(e) if so, the details of foreign exchange earned and the reasons of decline in export of Indian films during the above period; and

(f) the corrective steps taken by the Government to boost the export of films and to earn more foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The import of Hollywood films into the country is already restricted by the parameters defined in the import policy for films given in the Public Notice No.4(PN)/97-02 dated 31.3.97 irrespective of their exhibition in English or dubbed versions.

The Film Federation of India (FFI) the apex body representing the film industry in India has informed that on the whole the film industry does not object to dubbed versions of Hollywood films.

(d) and (e) There is a growing demand for Indian films in the foreign market and the viewership base of

the same has increased substantially. According to information received from Film Federation of India, the foreign exchange earned annually from exports of Indian films has, over the last 10 years, increased from approx. Rs. 20 crores to about Rs. 400 crores. As such there has been no decline in the export of Indian films.

(f) Consequent to conferring "industry" status on the film sector, in May 1998, the Government had requested the Ministry of Finance to allow the benefits of Section 80 HHC regarding deduction on profits from exports under the Income Tax Act to be made admissible to the exporters of entertainment software. In the Finance Bill, 1999, a new section namely Section 80 HHF was incorporated in the Income Tax whereby profits derived from exports of entertainment software are eligible for deduction to the extent of 100 per cent. This Section was applicable to Indian companies engaged in the business of export/transfer of film, TV films, Music, TV News software including telecast rights. This Ministry had again taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance to extend the benefit of this Section to individual exporters as well. In the Finance Bill 2000, the benefits under this Section have been sought to be extended to individuals/proprietors who are engaged in the export of entertainment software as well.

### Lease Hold of Mining Work

2529. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the State Government particularly to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar to review the policy of giving the Bauxite, Lignite and Granite mines on lease;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto;

(c) the number of proposals received by the Government to carry out mining work in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar on lease basis and the number of such proposals pending with the Government; and

(d) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of Bauxite, Lignite and Granite minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Nine proposals for grant of mining lease for lignite have been received from Gujrat, out of which three are pending with the Central Government. As regards Bauxite, a total of fourteen proposals have been received from the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar, out of which two proposals are pending with the Central Government. Granite is a minor mineral defined under section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and hence Central Government is not concerned with the grant of mineral concession for granite which are granted by the respective State Governments at their own level.

(d) At present there is no proposal with the Government to increase the export of Bauxite and Lignite. Granite has been identified and declared as "thrust area" and necessary steps have been initiated for promoting hassles free export of granite by the Department of Commerce. Department of Mines have also promulgated the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 with effect from 1.6.1999 for systematic and scientific development of granite.

#### Capital Adequacy Norms

2530. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of nationalised banks that satisfy the capital adequacy norms;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide budgetary support to banks failing to satisfy capital adequacy norms; and

(c) if not, the other measures are being contemplated by the Government to achieve capital adequacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that 18 out of 19 Nationalised Banks achieved the required Capital Risk Weighted Assets Ratio (CRAR) of 8% as on 31st March, 1999.

(b) and (c) Government will consider viable restructuring programmes acceptable to the Government as the owner and the RBI as the regulator, prepared and adopted by the concerned Bank.

#### Illegal Import of Cardamom

2531. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cardamom is facing threat due to illegal and other imports; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) With effect from 31.3.99, Cardamom is freely importable into India. Inflow of Cardamom at rates cheaper than the Indian Cardamom cost of production would gain customer preference.

(b) The Government has put in place Schemes to help Cardamom farmers to increase production and productivity to produce cardamom efficiently. These schemes include production and supply of quality planting material, replanting of old and uneconomic and diseased plantations, irrigation and land development programmes and extension advisory services.

#### Uplinking Facility

2532. DR. V. SAROJA :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have decided to grant permission of free uplinking facility on 'C' Band to Indian Companies entering into Broadcasting field;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be mobilized through such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Govt. has permitted the Indian companies with a minimum of 80% Indian Share-holding and Indian Management Control to unplug their satellite TV Channels from India. Licence fee at the rate of Rs. 100 per year station and royalty at the rate of Rs. 35,000/- per year per MHz band-width or part thereof is charged by WPC Wing from the agencies uplinking from India.

(c) Details of annual income which are accruing or likely to accrue to the Govt. and VSNL are as follows:

(i) Annual licence fee and royalty Rs. 1.4 Crores . charges by WPC, Department of Telecommunication.

ii) Uplinking facility charges by Rs.12.0 Crores VSNL

**TOTAL Rs.13.4 Crores**

#### Production of Mines and Minerals

2533.SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the volume of mines and minerals production in the country has increased during the recent years;

(b) if so, the details of the production during each of the last three years, mines and mineral-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the production, supply and use of mines and minerals especially of Coal and Lignite in the country;

(d) Whether the Government have any specific proposals under consideration to develop and promote the production of Lignite in Neyveli;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the expected production of Lignite both in quantity and value in Neyveli mines during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) Details of Mineral-wise production during the years 1996-97 to 1998-99 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The steps taken by Government to improve production and development of mineral sector include changes in mineral policy and amendments in legislation and procedures to make them investor friendly. Government is facilitating Coal and Lignite Sector improvement by opening new projects, modernising existing mines and upgrading technologies.

(d) and (e): Yes Sir. The Central Government has approved advance action in respect of two new mines to produce 16 million tonnes of lignite at Neyveli by Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC). NLC is in the process of preparing feasibility reports for these mines. The lignite so produced will be utilised to feed fuel to the two proposed thermal power stations at Neyveli.

(f): The expected production of Lignite by NLC and its value in 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as under.

Year	Expected Lignite Production (In million tonnes)	Estimated value (Rs. In Crores)
2000-2001*	17.50	834.62
2001-2002	19.00	1198.70

#### Statement

##### Details of Production of Minerals

Minerals	Unit	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99(P)
1	2	3	4	5

Coal	M.tonnes	285.63	295.80	292.27
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Lignite	M.tonnes	22.54	23.05	23.17
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Natural Gas	MMSCM	23255	26401	27428
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Crude Oil	M.tonnes	33	34	33
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#### Metallic Minerals

Bauxite	000'tonnes	6076	6112	6452
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Chromite	000'tonnes	1456	1515	1404
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Copper ore	000'tonnes	3896	4500	4253
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Gold	Kg.	2710	2636	2463
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Iron ore	000'tonnes	68161	75723	70683
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Lead Conc.	000'tonnes	60	61	64
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Manganese ore	000'tonnes	1871	1642	1526
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Zinc Conc.	000'tonnes	277	293	350
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#### Non Met. Minerals

Apostite	000'tonnes	9	7	14
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Asbestos	000'tonnes	27	26	20
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Barytes	000'tonnes	382	453	659
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Diamond	Carats	31836	30994	34579
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Dolomite	000'tonnes	3469	3003	2908
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Fire Clay**	000'tonnes	407	450	361
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Fluorite Conc.	000'tonnes	20	11	++
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Fluorite graded	000'tonnes	5	6	4
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1	2	3	4	5
Gypsum	000 'tonnes	2210	2195	2327
Kaolin	000 'tonnes	775	791	709
Kyanite	000 'tonnes	7	6	6
Lime Stone	M.tonnes	103	110	110
Magnesite	000 'tonnes	378	374	351
Mica	'tonnes	1954	1697	1492
Phosphorite	000 'tonnes	1341	1219	1609
Pyrites	000 'tonnes	144	125	89
Silca Sand	000 'tonnes	1540	1451	1314
Sillimanite	000 'tonnes	9	12	12
Steatite	000 'tonnes	531	475	456
Wollastonite	000 'tonnes	97	98	95

Note : MT - Million tonnes : 000 tonnes - Thousand tonnes, Kg-Kilogram, ++ Negligible, MMSCM - Million Standard Cubic metre.

\*\* Excludes the production of fireclay, if any recovered incidental to coal mining.

#### Unutilized Foreign Assistance/Loan

2534. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large sum of foreign assistance/loan is lying unutilised or undisbursed in Central and State sector;

(b) if so, the quantum of financial assistance/loan received from all external sources during each of the last three years and the quantum of funds out of such loan/assistance is lying unutilised or undisbursed as on 31 March, 1999;

(c) the reasons for lying such funds unutilised/undisbursed; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for early disbursement of such funds so that the country could be benefited therefrom and the burden of commitment charges and interest is not borne by the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The amount of foreign assistance/loan (Government and Non-Government) disbursed and unutilized/undisbursed in Central and State Sector during the last three years (upto 31 March, 1999) was as under:

(Figures in Rs. Crores)

Year	Central Sector		State Sector	
	Disburse- ment during the year	Undis- bursed as on year ending	Disburse- ment during the year	Undis- bursed as on year ending
1996-97	6734.69	28207.25	5311.86	32097.65
1997-98	6625.96	29665.39	5269.05	35836.82
1998-99	6436.56	28688.75	6912.28	39427.43

(c) and (d) Since Projects are implemented over a period of time, there is at any given point of time, an inevitable stock of undisbursed funds. Thus all the undisbursed aid is not available for utilisation immediately. However, the slower than expected utilization of foreign aid is due to fund constraints, procurement and contracting delays and other project specific issues. Some of the steps taken by the Government to improve aid utilization are ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided project, streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediation on flow of external aid to Central Public Sector Undertakings, quarterly review with Executing Agencies, setting up of a Project Management Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs, strengthening Project Management Units/Project Monitoring Cells in nine States and five Central Ministries, appointment of Nodal Officer for the States and Regular review of projects with respect to quality at entry. A system of monitoring the projects on the basis of quarterly milestones of important activities has also been introduced.

#### Remunerative Price for Tea and Coffee

2535. DR. C. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the remunerative price fixed for Coffee and tea;

(b) whether the remunerative price of coffee and tea is adequate in comparison to other commercial crops; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to remove hurdles in export of coffee and tea faced by the growers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The prices of coffee and tea are determined by market forces of demand and supply and are not fixed by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For boosting export of coffee, the Coffee Board concentrates on targeted markets like USA, Japan, Russia and Middle East Countries, etc. The Board also participates in select food fairs/exhibitions abroad, releases advertisements on unique features of Indian coffee in overseas trade journals, sponsors trade delegations/invites roasters' delegations from all target markets to India. To popularise Indian coffee they arrange service of Indian coffee abroad and distribute gift packets of Indian Coffee through our embassies on special occasions and festivals and publish and distribute literature on Indian coffee.

For export promotion of tea, Government through Tea Board has been giving special attention to areas offering potential. Tea Board also acts to remove bottlenecks in exports to individual markets whenever these are noticed. Certain other measure taken to increase exports of tea include (i) participation in major trade fairs/exhibitions abroad, (ii) field sampling (iii) media campaign and (iv) exchange of tea delegations between India and tea importing countries.

#### Advertisement Released By DAVP

2536. SHRI P. H. PANDIYAN :  
SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of advertisements released by DAVP to the national dailies during the last three years;

(b) the details of advertisements released by DAVP to regional language newspapers during the said period published in Tamil, Gujarati and Bengali; and

(c) the amount paid for the advertisements, newspaper-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Advertisements are released by DAVP to different categories of newspapers earmarked as Small, Medium and Big. The details of advertisements

released by DAVP to the Small, Medium and Big categories of newspapers in terms of number of insertions, space and amount during the last three years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are giving in the enclosed Statement -I

(b) The details of advertisements released by DAVP to the regional language newspapers in Tamil, Gujarati and Bengali during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are given in the enclosed Statement II.

(c) During the year 1996-97, a total amount of Rs.39,08,92,421 was paid for advertisements to 5,592 newspapers and Rs.50,90,15,326 was paid for advertisements to 6,337 newspapers during the year 1997-98. The details in this regard, newspaper-wise have been given in Vol. II of Ministry of I and B's Annual Report for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99, which are available in the Parliament Library. For the year 1998-99 the total amount paid was Rs. 65,01,78,280, for 6,249 newspapers, the details of which are given in Vol. II of the Ministry's Annual Report for the year 1999-2000, which is being placed in the Parliament Library shortly.

#### Statement-I

*The share of Small Medium and Big category of Newspapers/periodicals during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 for display and classified Advertisements*

Sl. No.	Cate-gory	No. of Papers	No. of Inser-tions	Space (in Col. Cms.)	Amount (in Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1996-97</b>					
1.	Small	4327	37574	2801952	47976531
2.	Medium	1119	46004	3040174	98310853
3.	Big	146	36959	1920500	244605037
Total		5592	120537	7762626	390892421
<b>1997-98</b>					
1.	Small	4867	49659	367227	61521119
2.	Medium	1294	63670	3819335	125736787
3.	Big	176	44151	2356116	321757420
Total		6337	157480	9847728	509015326

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1996-99</b>					
1. Small	4629	40476	3123758	60602236	
2. Medium	1427	62450	3898228	143926469	
3. Big	193	53021	3044833	445649575	
Total	6249	155947	10066819	650178280	

**Statement-II**

*The details of Advertisements released by DAVP to the Regional Language Newspapers in Tamil, Gujarati and Bengali during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99*

Sl. No.	Langu- age	No. of Papers	No. of Inser- tions	Space (in Col. Cms.)	Amount (in Rs.)
<b>1996-97</b>					
1. Tamil	66	3663	266880	9340633	
2. Gujarati	103	2856	216946	11500211	
3. Bengali	218	3412	244960	14847398	
<b>1997-98</b>					
1. Tamil	69	3741	266123	9982328	
2. Gujarati	104	3418	253505	14334971	
3. Bengali	232	4274	303850	19373324	
<b>1998-99</b>					
1. Tamil	62	4077	332439	13709697	
2. Gujarati	110	3450	316153	23038276	
3. Bengali	218	3908	292409	26250623	

[Translation]

**T.V. Channel**

2537. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the new-item captioned, "News break aur khandan ke Beech Phase T.V. Channel" appearing in the "Janasatta" dated December 9, 1999;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the effective policy being formulated or proposed to be formulated by the Government to check the recurrence by this kind of situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes Sir, It is, however, stated that the said news item was published in the "Jansatta", New Delhi dated December 29, 1999 and not December 9, 1999.

(b) The report highlights the contradictions and discrepancies in the news coverage by the private TV channels, relating to the recent hijacking of the Indian Airlines plane.

(c) and (d) Inadequacy and shortcomings of coverage of the hijacking event by private TV channels have been discussed in various fora. The Government is committed to the freedom of the media and expects them to conduct themselves in a responsible manner.

**National Film Development Corporation**

2538. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the losses being incurred by the National Film Development Corporation annually for the last two years and during the current financial year;

(b) the reason therefor;

(c) whether this corporation owes crores of rupees to Government electronic media; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has not suffered any loss during the year 1997-98. The Corporation earned a net profit of Rs. 4.30 crores during the year. However, for the year 1998-99 the company suffered a net loss of Rs. 10.57 crores. The performance for the current financial year 1999-2000 (upto 31st January, 2000) has been satisfactory with the company making a net profit



of Rs. 3.27 crores (figures provisional and subject to audit).

(b) The reasons for the losses suffered by the Corporation during 1998-99 were due to recessionary pressures in the market coupled with stiff competition from private satellite channels which adversely affected the company's major revenue earning activity viz. Television (FCT) Marketing. As a result the Television Marketing Activity failed to generate sufficient revenues to cover cost.

(c) and (d) As on 31st January, 2000 amount payable by NFDC to Doordarshan is Rupees 6.71 crores after taking into account the adjustments because of delayed telecast due to Doordarshan programme exigencies and disrupted telecast (amounting to Rs. 10 crores for 1997-98 and Rs.15.50 crores for 1998-99).

The payments outstanding are net of the amount payable by Doordarshan to NFDC in respect of various services rendered such as technical, marketing and production services.

[English]

#### Research Project by AIR

2539.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major research projects carried out by the Audience Research Unit of All India Radio during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent by the Government on Audience Research Units of AIR during the above period; and

(c) the research projects pending with research units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The amount spent on the studies/surveys conducted by Audience Research Units of All India Radio during the last three years is as under :

Year	Amount (Rupees in Lakhs)
1997-1998	11.50
1998-1999	12.79
1999-2000	12.27

(c) No research project is pending with Audience Research Unit of All India Radio.

#### Statement

Surveys/studies conducted by Audience Research Units of All India Radio during last three years are given below:-

#### 1997-98

1. General Listening Surveys at four Metros - Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai.
2. General Listening Survey at Guwahati and Leh.
3. Feed forward Studies at Amraoti (Maharashtra).
4. Surveys on Farm and Home Programmes at Ratnagiri, Pondicherry, Jalgaon, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Nagpur, Lucknow, Cuttack, Bangalore and Jalandhar.
5. Survey on Science Programmes of AIR, Jaipur and Ajmer.
6. Survey on Akashvani Sangeet Sammelan Conducted at Jaipur, Jalandhar, Hyderabad, Chennai, Vishakhapatnam, Agartala, Nagpur, Bangalore, Delhi, Dharwad, Lucknow, Cuttack, Mathura and Thiruvananthapuram.
7. Survey on Primary and Commercial Channels conducted at Jalandhar, Bhopal, Jammu, Hyderabad, Tiruchirapalli, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Ranchi, Lucknow and Cuttack.
8. Quick Feed Back Studies on local programmes at 40 places.

#### 1998-99

1. Survey on Primary and Commercial Channels conducted at Rajkot, Dharwad, Panaji, Jodhpur, Calicut, Chennai, Indore, Nagpur, Allahabad, Patna, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Bhopal, Mumbai, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Cuttack, Lucknow, Tiruchirapalli, Ranchi.
2. General listening Survey at Agra.
3. Survey on Khel Jagat and Lok Dhara of AIR, Rohtak.
4. Survey on Morning Information Programme of AIR, Pondicherry and AIR, Akola.

5. Survey on Effect of Foreign Electronic Media in the Border areas of Jammu.
6. Quick Feed Back Studies on Local programmes at 7 places.

**1999-2000**

1. RPL Ratings studies were conducted at Warangal, Nagaon, Jorhat Chaibasa, Godhra, Kurukshetra, Tirupathi, Cochin, Betual, Sagar, Balaghat, Ahmed Nagar, Nasik, Bolangir, Banswara, Nagarkoila, Kailashar, Faizabad, Karaikal, Hassan, Chanderpur, Kannur, Shimla, Barmer, Coimbatore, Chatterpur, Itanagar, Sangli, Bareilly and Patiala.
2. Survey on Yuva-Vani programme at Calcutta, Visakhapatnam, Indore, Lucknow, Jodhpur, Kurseong, Jalandhar, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Delhi, Guwahati, Bhopal, Chennai, Patna, Ahmedabad and Bangalore.
3. Survey on FM Channels of AIR at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai and Panaji.
4. Survey on Akashvani Sangeet Sammelan at Agartala, Shimla, Patna, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Chennai, Calcutta, Dharwad, Mathura, Delhi, Rohtak and Tiruchi.
5. A study on Pulse Polio Immunization at Kurseong, Visakhapatnam, Rohtak, Agartala, Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Jaipur, Patna and Mathura.
6. Survey on News Bulletins at Visakhapatnam, Pondicherry, Ahmedabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore, Delhi, Lucknow, Patna, Kurseong, Hyderabad and Calcutta.
7. Quick Feed Back survey on World Cup 1999 Cricket at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Shillong, Lucknow, Jaipur, Ranchi, Dharwad, Bhopal, Raipur and Jalandhar.
8. Quick Feed Back studies on Local Programmes at 10 places.

**Sports Events on DD**

2540. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the major sports events covered by Doordarshan in which loss incurred by DD during the last two years;
- (b) the reasons for incurring loss;
- (c) the action taken to fix responsibility in each case; and
- (d) the preventive measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have intimated that in order to fulfil its obligations as a Public Service Broadcaster, all major sports events like football, hockey, wrestling, kabaddi, judo, khokho, polo, equestrian, etc., organised by respective national/local bodies were covered by Doordarshan even though the telecast of such events is not commercially viable. Doordarshan incurred expenditure on such telecasts in terms of deployment of O B Van, staff, etc., without earning any revenue.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Cases pending with BIFR**

2541. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI C.P. RADHA KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases referred to the BIFR since the inception of this Board, till date;
- (b) the number of cases disposed of finally by this Board till February 29, 2000;
- (c) the number of cases out of these were recommended to be closed and number of cases for revival; and
- (d) the number of cases accepted for revival and the number of cases rejected by the Government along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 31st December 1999 (latest available) 2867 references were registered with the Board.

(b) to (d) 1864 cases have been disposed off by BIFR as on 31.12.1999. Out of these winding up has been recommended in respect of 666 cases to concerned High Courts. Further 616 rehabilitation schemes have been approved/sanctioned by BIFR. 1133 cases which do not conform to the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 are not accepted by the BIFR.

### **Austerity Measures**

2542. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Union Government have directed all the Departments to observe austerity measures;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to put a restriction on the telephone calls and consumption of diesel and petrol in vehicles being used by Government servants; and

(d) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Keeping the Government expenditure under control is a continuous process and instructions in this regard are issued from time to time. These instructions include restriction on creation of posts, reduction in consumption/ expenditure on petrol expenditure on telephones. STD facility restriction on OTA. Entertainment, purchase of vehicles. etc.

[English]

### **Monitoring Authority for DD Programmes**

2543. DR. SANJAY PASWAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "School children abhor violence, obscenity on T.V.: Study" appearing in the Times of India' dated January 13, 2000.

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which the monitoring authority to check the quality of programmes on T.V. is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report quotes a study conducted by Vidyasagar Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences wherein 50 per cent of school children are found to have emotional adjustment difficulties. It is mentioned in the report that children abhor violence and obscenity in TV Programmes and want a monitoring authority to check the quality of programmes on TV.

(c) and (d) Programmes on Doordarshan are regulated by its Broadcast Code. The private satellite channels uplinked from India are also required to follow the same Code. The encrypted satellite channels uplinked from outside India are also subjected to the Programme Code under the Cable TV Networks Rules. These Codes inter-alia prohibit obscenity and violence.

### **Jute Manufacturing Machines**

2544. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the jute mill owners are unable to replace their decrepit machines because there is no company in the country that makes jute manufacturing machines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to encourage entrepreneurs to manufacture the jute machines;

(d) whether the Government are providing financial aid in terms of subsidies to those who are interested in it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No Sir. There are jute machines manufacturers in the country who are manufacturing machines for jute mills.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under assistance of Govt. of India and UNDP, the Indian Jute Mills Association and Research Associations of the country have developed a number of new technology jute machinery for modernization and diversification of Jute Industry. The first phase of such machines is undergoing evaluation in jute mills. National

Centre for Jute Diversification (NCJD) has also sponsored projects for Development of jute machinery suitable for both organised and unorganized sector

(d) and (e) Govt. of India and UNDP have provided fund for development of jute machinery to IJMA and Research Institutions as grant. NCJD is also providing fund for development of jute machinery. Funds are also being provided by the Govt. under Technology Upgradation Fund scheme to jute industry for procuring machinery at subsidized rate of interest.

#### Plan Funds to Assam

2545. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States including Assam have recorded the lowest utilization of plan allocated funds during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a large scale diversion of plan funds has been made by the Assam Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) There have been shortfalls in full utilization of plan allocation in some States including Assam during the last three years. The position in the case of Assam is as follows:-

	(Rs. in crores)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Original Plan Outlays	1434.00	1520.28	1650.00
Revised Plan outlays	1216.25	1324.08	1389.37
Actual Expenditure	1201.35	1217.26	1295.50

(c) and (d) The State Government of Assam have reported that no plan funds have been diverted. However, diversion to the extent of 20% of the Normal Central Assistance is allowed as a rule in the case of Special Category States like Assam to meet the non-plan revenue gap.

#### Cooperative Banks

2546. SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAKIP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open some more cooperative banks in Manipur State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they had received a proposal for grant of licence to "The Manipur State Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes Development Co-operative Bank Ltd., Imphal". Government of Manipur has also informed RBI that the said bank would function as an Apex State Co-operative Bank (SCB) in Manipur. Since Manipur State Co-operative Bank is already in existence as the Apex SCB, the possibility of new proposal is being legally examined by the RBI.

#### Export of Garments

2547. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantum of garments exported to USA, Canada and E.U. under garment export entitlement policy during 1997-98 and 1998-99; and

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to boost the export to these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The figures of garment exports to USA, Canada and EU during 1997-98 and 1998-99 are as under:-

	Value in million US\$	
	1997-98	1998-99
USA	1529.8	1626.2
Canada	187.1	208.0
EU	1789.8	1789.7

(b) Government have been taking several steps from time to time to boost garment exports to all countries including USA, Canada and EU which include encouraging exporters to participate in buyer-seller meets, fairs and exhibitions, enabling import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production, special arrangements for duty free import of raw materials for export production, etc.

The exports will also get a boost by phased integration of various textile products as per Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

### Condition of Handloom Weavers

2548. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the condition of handloom weavers has deteriorated due to competition from powerloom sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) The handloom weaver has faced stiff competition from powerloom sector due to inherent cost disadvantage of handloom products. The cost of production of the powerloom and mill sectors is much less and this has affected the handloom weaver producing items similar to those being produced by powerloom and mill sectors.

(c) In order to protect the interest of handloom weaver from this stiff competition, Government has promulgated Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 apart from other measures for product development. Under the Handloom Reservation Order dated 26.7.1996 11 textile articles, at present, are reserved for exclusive production on handlooms.

### Intellectual Property Right

2549. SHRI DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :  
SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL :  
DR. SANJAY PASWAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have organised a two-day global seminar on Intellectual Property Rights in New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details of those countries which have participated in this seminar;
- (c) whether the issues relating to WTO agreement have also been discussed; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) This Ministry has not organised a two-day global seminar in New Delhi on Intellectual Property Rights.

However, in the recent past, seminars/symposium were organised on intellectual property rights, details of which are given below:

- (i) An Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Intellectual Property Issues in the Next Millennium was organised by the World Intellectual Property Organisation, in association with Department of Industrial Development, and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in New Delhi from July 7 to 9, 1999. This Forum was attended by senior officials responsible for intellectual property rights policies and administration from 20 countries of Asia and the Pacific region to examine various issues concerning policy development in the field of intellectual property.
- (ii) A seminar on "Issues relating to the implementation of Intellectual Property Right" was organised by the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC), an inter-governmental organisation, in association with Ministry of External Affairs, in New Delhi from November 15-16, 1999. This seminar was attended by different member and non-member countries and representatives of international organisations.
- (iii) A Regional Symposium on Enforcement of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights for Asian and Pacific countries was organised in New Delhi from December 8-10, 1999 by the Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development with the cooperation of World Intellectual Property Organisation. This Symposium was attended by representatives from the countries of Asia-Pacific region.
- (iv) The Asian Patent Attorneys Association (APAA) and the Federation Internationale de Conseils en Propriete Industrielle (FICPI) privately organised a joint Forum in New Delhi from 11-13 February, 2000 to provide an insight into the current situation in the field of intellectual property prevailing in the world. The Asian Patent Attorneys Association is an association comprising lawyers practising in the field of intellectual property mainly from Asian countries. Federation Internationale de Conseils en Propriete Industrielle (FICPI) is an International Association of lawyers from all over the world.

### Enquiry Committee Against CMD, NEPA Mills

2550.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :  
MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enquiry committee constituted on allegations against CMD and others of NEPA Mills have submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) There were allegations and counter allegations made by CMD, Nepa and Director (Finance) against each other. On the basis of the report of the two Member Committee constituted by this Department, major penalty Proceedings have been initiated against Director (Finance). The allegations against CMD are being processed in consultation with CVC.

### Paper Industry

2551. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of paper industries exist in India;

(b) the number out of these are owned by the Government;

(c) whether the Government propose to give any package to give additional fillip to the paper industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) There are more than 380 paper mills with a total capacity of around 49 lakhs MTs per annum. Out of these, 9 paper mills are in State/Central Public Sector.

(c) and (d) Paper Industry has been delicensed and Entrepreneurs are only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneurs' Memorandum with Secretariat for Industrial Assistance in this Ministry as, for setting up a paper mill, no licence is required except in terms of locational policy notified by the Government or that the proposal does not envisage manufacturing of items reserved for small scale

sector. The performance of Paper Industry is reviewed from time to time and suitable measures are taken.

### Customs Drawback Scheme

2552. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of Customs drawback scheme;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a large scale corruption is going on in the Customs drawback scheme by over-invoicing the exports;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) the total amount paid to exporters under the said Scheme during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the steps taken to strengthen the export valuation system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Duty Drawback Scheme is intended to refund duties of Customs and Central Excise paid on raw materials/inputs/components used in the manufacture of a product which is exported out of India. As it is administratively not feasible to reimburse the actual incidence of duties of Customs and Central Excise on inputs used in the manufacture/packing of export goods, the Duty Drawback scheme provides for fixation of what are known as All Industry Rates of Drawback. These are based upon Government's assessment of average duties suffered on inputs used in the export product. Where the exporter is not satisfied with the All Industry Rate of Drawback, subject to certain conditions, he can seek compensation of the actual higher incidence of duties suffered by claiming what are known as Brand Rates of Drawback.

The Drawback rates are generally fixed as a percentage of FOB value of export products. However, to check unintended claim, specially in cases of possible over-valuation, a maximum cap has been imposed on 152 export products. This limits the Drawback amount payable to exporters with reference to the cap mentioned in the drawback Table.

The All Industry Rates of Drawback are announced by the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance once a year. They come into effect from a date three months after the date of presentation of the Central Government's

Annual Budget in the Lok Sabha. For the year 1999-2000, they were implemented with effect from 1.6.1999. These rates remain valid till notification of fresh rates.

The Drawback Scheme also provides that wherever the sale proceeds of the export consignments are not repatriated by the exporters within a period of 6 months or within such extended period as may be permitted by the Reserve Bank of India, the exporter is liable to refund the drawback amount granted, alongwith interest.

Submission of a shipping bill for export of goods under claim for duty drawback by an exporter is automatically treated as a claim by the exporter for drawback against the export goods, which are described in the shipping bill. The amount of drawback payable to exporter is calculated at the rates notified/fixed by the Department of Revenue. In most of the major Customs Stations, the processing of drawback claims has been computerised and the drawback amount payable to the exporter is credited to the bank account of the exporter in the nominated banks, mostly within a few days of completion of exports.

(b) and (c) Few instances have come to the notice of the Government wherein the exporters have claimed unduly high drawback amount by over-invoicing exports.

Brief details of such instances which have come to the notice of the Government during the last 3 years are given in the Statement attached herewith.

(d) The total amount paid to exporters under the said Scheme during the last 3 years, year-wise is as under:

1997-98	Rs. 3660.95 crores
1998-99	Rs. 4081.03 crores
1999-2000 (till January 2000)	Rs. 3981.43 crores

(e) As no export duties are levied on most export products, there are no detailed valuation rules laid down by law for checking and accepting declared values on exports. Central Board of Excise and Customs has, however, issued administrative directions to all the field formations to exercise great vigilance while accepting declared values in cases involving export incentives so as to ensure that unintended benefits are not claimed. Directorate of Drawback in the Department of Revenue also reviews from time to time the rates of drawback in industries prone to abuse, for fixing maximum drawback admissible per unit.

#### Statement

*Cases where unduly high duty drawback was claimed by the exporters by over invoicing the export goods which have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years (1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 - Till February, 2000)*

S. No.	Type of Cases	No. of cases	Amount of duty draw-back involved (Rs. In crores)	Action Taken
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Attempted over invoicing of export goods to obtain unduly high duty drawback	215	Over 57.14	100 of these cases involving Duty Drawback of Rs. 5.37 crores have been adjudicated. In all these cases goods confiscated were allowed to be redeemed against payment of redemption fine of Rs. 1.74 crores. Personal penalties of Rs. 1.52 crores were also imposed in these cases. In 58 of these cases, Duty Drawback of Rs. 3.73 crores was also denied.  In 58 of these cases involving Duty Drawback of Rs. 7.04 crores, show cause notices have been issued for denial of Duty Drawback. In four of these cases, Goods valued at Rs. 4.02 crores have also been seized; the respective show cause notices also propose confiscation of these goods.

1	2	3	4	5
				In 57 of these cases involving Duty Drawback of over Rs. 44.73 crores show cause notices are being issued.
2.	Fraudulent Claims of Duty Drawback involving over-invoicing of export goods in addition to other offences.	3	0.74	In these cases, 6 persons were arrested for their alleged involvement in the frauds. They have been released under Court's orders. In one case, show cause notice has been issued. In two other cases, investigation are in progress.

#### Mines and Mineral Units

2553. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of mines and mineral units in India in private and public sector, separately State-wise; and

(b) the details of policy of the Government to bring equipments for the public sector mines, both for use and extraction and safety purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of the Departments of Mines, the total number of mines in India excluding Petroleum, natural gas, atomic minerals and minor minerals during the year 1998-99 is 3168 out of which 839 mines are in public sector and 2329 mines are in private sector. State-wise information is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The Government has not prescribed any separate policy for import of equipments for the public sector mining companies. Import of equipments is governed by the general Export-Import policy of the Government of India.

#### Statement

##### Number of Mines in 1998-99

State	Public Sector*	Private Sector	Total
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	91	298	389
Assam	7	2	9

1	2	3	4
Bihar	192	135	327
Goa	0	71	71
Gujarat	8	408	416
Haryana	2	23	25
Himachal Pradesh	3	35	38
Jammu & Kashmir	5	1	6
Karnataka	36	154	190
Kerala	8	47	55
Madhya Pradesh	159	325	484
Maharashtra	68	75	143
Meghalaya	1	1	2
Orissa	60	172	232
Rajasthan	61	438	499
Sikkim	2	0	2
Tamil Nadu	17	105	122
Uttar Pradesh	9	28	37
West Bengal	110	11	121
Total	839	2329	3168

\*Central and State Public Sector

[Translation]

#### Export of Jewellery

2554. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:



(a) total export of jewellery made from the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to promote its exports; and

(c) the details of the export promotion schemes in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Total export of jewellery made from the country during each of the last three years is as under:

(Value: US \$ Million)		
Years	Gold Jewellery	Non gold jewellery
1996-97	511.80	15.14
1997-98	802.97	24.75
1998-99	846.15	58.00

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), Mumbai for 1998-99.

(b) It has been the continuous endeavour of the Government to increase the exports of gold/non-gold jewellery by way of introducing new policy initiatives by modifying the existing Exim Policy to enable the exporters to meet the global requirements. Some of the important policy initiatives introduced w.e.f. 1st April, 1999 to increase exports of gold/non-gold jewellery are: (i) Permission to Export Oriented Units (EOUs)/Export Processing Zone (EPZ) units to import plain gold/platinum/silver jewellery for repairs/re-make and subsequent export subject to earning a minimum Net Foreign Exchange Percentage (NFEP) of 7.5%; (ii) Permission for Personal Carriage of gems and jewellery parcels by foreign buyers from all EOUs and EPZ units and also from the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) units located in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai; (iii) Permission for export of gems and jewellery items by courier from selected ports upto a value of Rs. 20 lacs per consignment; (iv) Permission for duty free import of consumables required by jewellery and diamond processing industries to the extent of 1% of the FOB value of gems and jewellery exports in the preceding year; (v) Rationalisation of Value Addition norms for 'Bangles' made by fully mechanised process and ornaments like 'Mangalsutra'; (vi) Permission for export of samples made

in wax models, silver models and rubber moulds under intimation to Development Commissioner provided their value does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000/- in a year; (vii) Permission to EOUs/EPZ units to send scrap/dust/sweepings of gold to Private Mints also, apart from Government of India Mint, for refining and subsequent conversion into standard gold bars. Besides, such scrap/dust/sweepings of gold can be sold in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) also on payment of applicable Customs duty on the basis of gold content, as may be notified by the Customs.

(c) Exporters of jewellery have been provided with jewellery Export Promotion Schemes under Chapter 8 of the Exim Policy (1997-2002). The details of these schemes are available under the headings: (i) Export Against Supply by Foreign Buyer; (ii) export Through Exhibitions/Export Promotion Tours/Branded Jewellery; (iii) Export Against Supply by Nominated Agencies; (iv) Export Against Advance Licence; (v) Exports from Export Oriented Units (EOUs)/Export Processing Zones (EPZs); (vi) Replenishment Licence; (vii) Gem Replenishment Licence. Detailed procedures to be followed for availing these schemes are given in the Handbook of Procedures of Exim Policy, 1997-2002.

[English]

#### Condition of Cyclone affected Craftsmen in Orissa

2555: SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the government are aware of the pitiable condition of craftsmen in Orissa after the super cyclone;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been formulated or is proposed to be formulated by the Government to ameliorate their condition;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the government have provided any special package for the craftsmen of the State who were affected by the super cyclone; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (e) The Government is aware of the difficult conditions that the craftsmen of Orissa are facing after the super cyclone.

As per Action Plan formulated by the Government, a sum of Rs. 1.00 crore will be provided during the current financial year i.e. 1999-2000 in the handicrafts sector to the State of Orissa for the benefit of the artisans affected by the cyclone. The plan envisages assistance for construction of workshops; group insurance and health package; organisation of crafts bazars, exhibition and training etc. In addition, the special package includes: larger participation of such artisans in Dilli Haat; Suraj Kund Craft Mela; Taj Mahotasav, Gwalior Mela, Mini expo's; holding of exhibition and craft bazars; grant of TA/DA for participation in various programmes and enhanced purchases from artisans by the Central Cottage Industries Corporation Ltd and Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation Ltd. Moreover, a sum of Rs.40 lakhs is being provided to Orissa State Cooperative Handicrafts Development Corporation as share capital assistance for supply of raw material and tool kits to the artisans.

[Translation]

#### Internal Loan

2556. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount received by the Government from domestic Financial Institutions during each of the last three years;

(b) the total interest and capital paid to domestic financial institutions during each year of the said period;

(c) the amount of loan and interest payable to domestic financial institutions during the above period; and

(d) the latest position regarding domestic loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The position of domestic borrowings (Gross Market Borrowings excluding 364 days Treasury Bills) by the Government from the market during each of the last three years is given below:

(Rs. Crore)		
1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
27911	43390	83753

The market borrowings are largely subscribed by domestic financial institutions. Government accounts of

borrowings are maintained security-wise and not lender-wise.

(b) and (c) The total interest paid and principal repaid on market borrowings (excluding 364 days treasury bills) for the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. in Crore)					
1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal
19125	7899	22170	10891	28362	14765

(d) The latest position of gross market borrowings (excluding 364 days treasury bills) during 1999-2000 is Rs.86630 crore.

#### Foreign Channels

2557. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring foreign T.V. channels under the purview of Press Council;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there are different provisions for domestic and foreign channels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The programmes of foreign Satellite Channels are uplinked from Outside the country and therefore, do not fall under the ambit of Indian laws as of now, unless decoders are required for their reception in which case their programmes/advertisements, when transmitted through a cable operator, are required to adhere to the programme/advertisement codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. In so far as Indian private channels uplinked from within the country are concerned, their programmes are required to adhere to the programme and advertisement codes followed by Doordarshan. Moreover, they are subject to other laws of the land.

[English]

**Pending Projects of All India Radio**

2558. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :  
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some transmitter projects of All India Radio are technically ready in the country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of those projects, location-wise;

(c) the time by which these are likely to start functioning;

(d) whether some projects are also running behind schedule;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the extent to which the cost escalation has taken place due to delayed completion of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The details of AIR Transmitter Projects which are technically ready are given in the Statement-I. Prasar Bharati has been requested to commission the projects which are technically ready at the earliest, by redeployment of staff from other stations, as per the Adhoc staffing norms approved by the Government.

(d) and (e) The details of AIR projects running behind schedule are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(f) The major reasons for delay of these projects are as under:

- i) Delay in handing over of sites by the State Governments.
- ii) Delay in completion of Civil Works due to contractual problems.
- iii) Delay in procurement of equipment.
- iv) Local law and order problems.

v) Non-availability of approach Road, Power Supply etc.

(g) Since these projects are presently in various stages of implementation/installation, the extent of cost escalation can not be specified at this stage and can be actually ascertained only after completion of the projects.

**Statement-I**

S.No.	Name of Place	Scheme
1	2	3
1.	Jammu (J&K)	10 KW FM Tr. (VBS)
2.	Guwahati (Assam)	10 KW FM Tr. (VBS)
3.	Dhubri (Assam)	6 KW FM Tr. (Relay Centre)
4.	Ranchi (Bihar)	6 KW FM Tr. (VBS)
5.	Jamshedpur (Bihar)	6 KW FM Tr. (VBS)
6.	Siliguri (West Bengal)	10 KW FM Tr. (VBS)
7.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)	5 KW FM Tr. (2nd Channel)
8.	Bangalore (Karnataka)	6 KW FM Tr.
9.	Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)	10 KW FM Tr.
10.	Tezpur (Assam)	20 KW MW Tr.
11.	Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh)	10 KW MW Tr.
12.	Williamnagar (Meghalaya)	1 KW MW Tr. (CRS)
13.	Mon (Nagaland)	1 KW MW Tr. (CRS)
14.	Tuensang (Nagaland)	1 KW MW Tr. (CRS)
15.	Nongstoin (Meghalaya)	1 KW MW Tr. (CRS)
16.	Saiha (Mizoram)	1 KW MW Tr. (CRS)
17.	Ziro (Arunachal Pradesh)	1 KW MW Tr. (LRS)

**Statement-II**

Sr.No.	Station	Scheme	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Hyderabad	20 KW MW TR	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Champhai	1 KW FM TR	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Changlang	1 KW FM TR	Arunachal Prd.

1	2	3	4
4. Silchar	20 KW MW TR	Assam	
5. Khampur	3X250 KW SW TRs	Delhi	
6. Rajkot 'B'	10 KW FM TR	Gujarat	
7. Vadodara	10 KW FM TR	Gujarat	
8. Rohtak	20 KW MW TR	Haryana	
9. Srinagar 'C'	10 KW FM TR	J & K	
10. Bhadarwah	6 KW FM TR	J & K	
11. Bangalore 'B'	10 KW FM TR	Karnataka	
12. Trivendrum (A)	20 KW MW TR	Kerala	
13. Saraipalli	1 KW FM TR	Madhya Pradesh	
14. Mandla	1 KW FM TR	Madhya Pradesh	
15. Ambikapur	20 KW MW TR	Madhya Pradesh	
16. Rajgarh	3 KW FM TR	Madhya Pradesh	
17. Ratnagiri	20 KW MW TR	Maharashtra	
18. Imphal	10 KW FM TR	Manipur	
19. Shillong	10 KW FM TR	Meghalaya	
20. Tura	20 KW MW TR	Meghalaya	
21. Khonsa	1 KW FM TR	Mizoram	
22. Aizwal	20 KW MW TR	Mizoram	
23. Phek	1 KW FM TR	Nagaland	
24. Soro	1 KW MW TR	Orissa	
25. Gangtok	20 KW MW TR	Sikkim	
26. Chennai 'B'	20 KW MW TR	Tamil Nadu	
27. Tirunelveli	20 KW MW TR	Tamil Nadu	
28. Nutan Bazar	1 KW FM TR	Tripura	

1	2	3	4
29. Agartala	10 KW FM TR	Tripura	
30. Lucknow	10 KW FM TR	U.P.	

[Translation]

#### Sick Industries

2559. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of industries have fallen sick in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for their sickness;

(d) whether any efforts have been made by the Government for the revival of these sick units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. As per the latest available information, State-wise details of sick industrial units are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) According to RBI report, a number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible for industrial sickness. The main causes include deficiencies in planning, management, marketing etc.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which/inter-alia, include, guidelines of Reserve Bank of India to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, National Renewal Fund, National Equity Fund etc.

#### Statement

(Figures in numbers)

Name of the State/ Union Territories	March, 1997		March, 1998		March, 1999	
	Non-SSI & weak units	SSI units	Non-SSI & weak units	SSI units	Non-SSI & weak units	SSI units
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Assam	41	10133	44	15774	47	10586

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	1	5531	2	4076	1	447
Mizoram	0	1199	0	615	4	40
Bihar	64	22702	63	24935	-74	26293
Arunachal Pradesh	2	26	2	456	2	116
West Bengal	243	53451	240	53617	238	146182
Nagaland	2	2738	2	1386	5	166
Manipur	1	2707	2	1919	2	5237
Orissa	62	3408	57	1889	68	10134
Sikkim	1	30	1	33	1	28
Tripura	6	3171	6	2011	4	6914
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	13	0	45	0	25
Uttar Pradesh	202	23286	208	14294	218	17320
Delhi	35	3943	34	3580	60	3789
Punjab	62	2466	69	2376	80	3551
Haryana	78	2574	86	2149	103	3180
Chandigarh	10	170	3	163	5	187
Jammu and Kashmir	9	761	7	1627	7	630
Himachal Pradesh	31	2206	32	735	32	1103
Rajasthan	84	14561	87	15655	74	12835
Gujarat	213	6510	215	6808	223	4170
Maharashtra	399	19360	410	17925	495	13373
Daman and Diu	3	4	5	5	5	13
Goa	12	604	13	670	15	216
Dadar and Nagar Haveli	4	1	8	2	9	24
Madhya Pradesh	111	12070	116	8348	130	6808
Andhra Pradesh	264	15460	295	12074	369	6260
Karnataka	159	6937	171	6680	180	4342
Tamil Nadu	175	9809	198	12289	248	11408
Kerala	81	8908	85	8969	80	10074
Pondicherry	13	293	15	431	13	770
<b>Total</b>	<b>2368</b>	<b>235032</b>	<b>2476</b>	<b>221536</b>	<b>2792</b>	<b>306221</b>

### Foreign Aid for Water Supply Schemes in Bihar

2560. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of water supply schemes of various cities submitted by the State Government of Bihar for foreign aid;

(b) the present position of these proposals, scheme-wise; and

(e) the details of action being initiated by the Government to expedite the necessary foreign aid for these proposals?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) No proposal from the State Government of Bihar for foreign aid in the Water Supply sector is under consideration.

[English]

### Production of Cardamom

2561. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a substantial increase in the production of cardamom;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of the development programmes for improving production/productivity of cardamom being undertaken by the Government/Spices Board?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Production of cardamom have shown mixed trends during last three years. The details of production of Cardamom (Small and Large) during the last three years is given below:

Year	Production (In M.Tonnes)	
	Small Cardamom	Large Cardamom
1996-97	6625	5150
1997-98	7900	5265
1998-99	7170	4210
1999-2000*	9290	2353

\*Midterm estimate

(c) The development programmes for improving production/productivity of cardamom (Small and Large) undertaken by the Government/Spices Board include production and supply of quality planting material, replanting of old and uneconomic and diseased plantations, irrigation and land development programmes and extension advisory services. Spices Board also supports in constructing/renovating community curing houses for processing large cardamom scientifically. Spices Board's research wings viz., Indian Cardamom Research Institute (Myladumpara, Kerala), substations at Sakaleshpur (Karnataka), Thadiankudissai (Tamil Nadu), Gangtok (Sikkim) have also undertaken a number of research activities for increasing production and productivity of Small and large cardamom.

### Rehabilitation of Workers of closed Jute Mills

2562. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some jute mills have been closed down in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the reasons for the closure of these jute mills;

(d) the number of workers affected due to the closure of these jute mills; and

(e) the steps taken to rehabilitate the workers of these mills?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Only a single Jute Mill is situated in Orissa which is a State sector Jute Mill. The mill is not closed down.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

### Trade ties with Switzerland

2563. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand trade ties with Switzerland;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed between both the countries to stimulate flow of investment, technology and trade in both the countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI. MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) India and Switzerland have bilateral framework agreements for promotion/protection of investments and avoidance of double taxation to stimulate flow of investment, technology and trade between the two countries. The two sides exchanged views for further expansion and diversification of bilateral trade and economic cooperation during the recent visit of the Swiss Minister of Economy (Mr. Pascal Couchepin) to India.

#### State Share on Taxes

2564. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the share of States in Central Excise will go down due to the excise exemption given recently to Assam and the North-Eastern States;

(b) whether the Government have informed the State Governments of this potential decline in their share due to excise exemptions granted to some States; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that States will not suffer due to such incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While some Government decisions on taxation may cause revenue to be foregone in public interest, other decisions result in revenue gain. There is no system of ensuring against shortfalls just as there is no cap on revenue gain in absolute terms.

#### Excise Duty Exemption to Backward Districts

2565. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend total Central Excise exemption to all backward districts on similar lines as was granted to Assam;

(b) if so, the criteria for determining the backwardness of a district;

(c) whether any detailed programme has been drawn up for identifying such districts;

(d) if so, whether any districts has been identified in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

#### Free Port

2566. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert 'Port Blair' into 'Free Port' and

(b) if so, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd.

2567. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :  
SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether State-owned Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. has sought a third bail out package from the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the Disinvestment Commission has also recommended to the Government to write-off the entire accumulated losses of RINL to keep the firm from being referred to the BIFR;

(c) if so, whether the disinvestment Commission has submitted its Twelfth Report to the Union Government;

(d) if so, the salient features of the report;

(e) if so, whether the Government have decided to write off Rs. 3,597 crore; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). The Disinvestment Commission has recommended that the Government should write-off

the entire accumulated losses of RINL against its entire "Share Money Pending Allotment" and "Preference Share Capital" and part of Equity capital to keep the company from being referred to BIFR and to clean up its balance sheet.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In its 12th report the Disinvestment Commission has given its recommendations in respect of BHEL, HIL, HOCL, RCFL and RINL.

(e) and (f) The matter is under consideration and no final decision has been taken in this regard.

#### Written Off Bank Loans

2568. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of bank dues recoverable by nationalised banks from firms wound off and declared sick during the last three years;

(b) the amount of such dues written off including the credit waived off by way of settlements, sector-wise;

(c) whether a number of farmers have committed suicide and killed their family members due to non-payment of bank loans; and

(d) if so, the number of such cases came to light during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that their Data Reporting System does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, details regarding Number of Non-SSI (Sick/weak) and Sick SSI Industrial Units and Outstanding credit thereof of scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March 1997, 1998 and 1999 (provisional) are as under:

(Rs. crore)						
End of March	Non-SSI (sick/weak)		Sick-SSI		Total	
	Units	Amt.	Unit	Amt.	Unit	Amt.
1997	2368	10177.81	235032	3809.20	237400	13787.01
1998	2476	11825.25	221536	3856.64	224012	15681.89
1999	2792	15150.41	306221	4313.48	309013	19463.89

(a) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

[Translation]

#### Loan to Handloom Weavers

2569. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:  
SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to make available loan to the handloom weavers;

(b) the amount of loan given to the handloom weavers during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the handloom weavers have to face a lot of problems in getting loan from the banks;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The Government of India has setup National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for extending refinance facility at concessional rates to the State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs) for meeting the working capital requirement of Weavers Cooperative Societies and State Handloom Development Corporations of the States for carrying out production, procurement and marketing activities. Besides this, loan is also being released under the Project Package Scheme (PPS) for providing infrastructural support like supply of looms, setting up of godowns etc.

(b) The State-wise refinance facility provided by NABARD and loans provided under PPS for last 3 years is given in Statement I and II respectively.

(c) There is no reported difficulty in getting loan from the Banks.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### Statement-I

State-wise Refinance facility provided by NABARD for Production, Procurement and Marketing Activities to Weavers Cooperative Societies

(Rs. In Crores)						
State	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Limits	Drawals	Limits	Drawals	Limits	Drawals
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Prd.	93.25	77.69	98.37	63.39	76.40	53.56



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bihar	0.17	0.17	0.51	0.46	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.60	1.00	1.00
Himachal Pd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.60	0.00
Karnataka	3.45	2.86	5.80	3.69	3.89	1.31
Kerala	58.66	50.55	51.04	58.08	57.84	0.00
Madhya Pd	14.13	12.73	17.03	10.81	9.03	4.75
Maharashtra	6.57	6.32	0.90	0.28	0.00	0.00
Orissa	68.79	89.83	74.60	64.18	78.83	68.41
Pondicherry	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	427.01	289.60	416.90	577.00	455.53	731.00
Uttar Pd.	16.00	16.00	8.40	8.40	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	65.08	59.76	69.54	62.34	69.22	64.43
Total	759.11	605.51	743.59	849.23	752.84	924.46

**Statement-II***Loan released under Project Package Scheme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	79.06	101.80	93.98
Assam	36.00	93.55	0.00
Bihar	6.25	36.75	0.00
Gujarat	0.85	1.59	0.19
Haryana	8.72	0.79	1.08
Himachal Pradesh	4.76	4.25	11.83
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	43.32	30.93
Karnataka	8.16	6.49	1.25
Kerala	44.51	93.10	163.33
Madhya Pradesh	12.95	19.96	8.71
Maharashtra	0.93	54.35	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	10.00	0.00

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	32.12	19.80	143.93
Orissa	16.30	24.03	4.75
Rajasthan	0.00	20.50	0.00
Tamil Nadu	27.12	29.86	51.08
Tripura	0.00	3.10	1.85
Uttar Pradesh	6.25	29.99	74.91
West Bengal	16.02	24.77	11.31
Total	300.00	600.00	599.13

*[English]***Indian Watches in Domestic Market**

2570. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- whether the share of Indian watches in domestic market is only 20%;
- is so, the reasons therefor; and
- the steps being taken by the Government to provide level-playing field to indigenous industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) The share of Indian watches in domestic market is approximately 25% (10 million pieces) against an estimated total demand of 40 million pieces of watch in India as per estimate of Planning Commission.

(b) The balance of 75% are also assembled and sold in India with watch movement alongwith Indian case and dials. These are under OGL and are therefore allowed to be imported freely with a total duty of 39%.

(c) Import of watch movements unassembled or partly assembled watch, watch cases and parts thereof and other watch parts are allowed to be imported freely. The domestic watch manufacturers supplying goods to duty free licence holder shall be eligible for deemed exports benefit under the Paragraph 10.3 of Exim Policy. The watch and clock upto maximum retail price (MRP) of Rs. 500/- have been exempted from excise duty in the Budget proposals for the year 2000-2001.

### Guidelines issued to Banks by SEBI

2571. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :  
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :  
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National stock Exchange has advised some of the clearing banks, which have been aggressive in extending credit to brokers to review their limits as well as the quality of assets against which funds have been extended;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the SEBI is concerned over possible exploitation of the banking system by brokers taking large exposures on the back of guarantee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) The National Stock Exchange of India Limited continuously monitors the market to ensure that contracts in securities are entered into and settled in an orderly and transparent manner in full compliance with the rules and regulations and takes appropriate measures to protect the integrity of the market as well as the interest of the investors. Although no such specific advice has been given by the Exchange, informal consultations do take place between the Exchange and other capital market intermediaries including clearing banks from time to time with a view to streamlining operations and risk management practices in the capital market.

(c) to (e) SEBI has informed that exposures of brokers are linked to the capital deposited by brokers with the Exchange. SEBI had prescribed that 75% of the base minimum capital deposited by the broker may be in the form of cash/fixed deposits/bank guarantees/securities. The additional capital and margins may also be deposited in the form of cash/bank guarantee/fixed deposits/securities. Recently, SEBI has prescribed that the cash component of additional capital and margin should reach the level of 50% by end of March, 2000 and the stock exchanges have been advised to work out a phased programme to implement the same. Government constantly reviews with SEBI such measures, as may be necessary, to ensure that capital markets operate in an orderly and transparent manner.

### Utilisation of Machinery of Nagpur DD Station

2572. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inadequate and unplanned utilisation of machinery provided at DD Stations particularly at Nagpur; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to utilize uplinking facilities optimally and upgrade the production of programmes utilising fully available facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Doordarshan Kendra Nagpur has got Programme Generation Facility, which caters to the need of production of local transmission of one hour from Monday to Friday as well as contributes one hour programme for five days a week to DDK Mumbai for DD-10 Satellite Regional Language Service (SRLS). These programmes are prepared as per planned quarterly schedule

(b) DDK, Nagpur, has been provided with uplinking facilities from 15.8.1999. Daily, half hour time slot is allocated to DDK, Nagpur for feeding the news items of Nagpur and Vidharbha region through this tract van to DDK, Mumbai. During the Winter Session of Maharashtra State Assembly, this facility was used at length for providing proceedings of Assembly to DDK, Mumbai. It was also extensively used during election period. Also the important events of Nagpur and around are being continuously fed alongwith story to DDK, Mumbai.

### Trade Barriers on Wool

2573. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has offered to reduce or eliminate a range of barriers in trade on wool and wool products; and

(b) if so, the manner in which it is likely to help the wool trade in India?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No Sir, Government of

India has not received any specific offer from Australia for reduction or elimination of a range of barriers in trade on wool and wool products.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Diversification of Jute Products**

2574. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restructure the external market assistance scheme for export of diversified jute products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the regulations of World Trade Organisation allows continuation of such schemes; and

(d) if not, the measures proposed by the Government to assist jute growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to restructure the External Market Assistance (EMA) scheme for export of diversified jute products. For this purpose, a study on the operation of the EMA scheme has been undertaken, based on which a new policy shall be formulated w.e.f. 01.04.2000.

(c) No restrictions on EMA under World Trade Organisation regulations had been received so far.

(d) The Government has taken following steps to help the farmers increase the production and yield of jute.

- (i) Various research institutions like CRIJAF, NIRJAFT have given thrust on high yielding varieties and multiplication of seeds to improve the yield of the fibre.
- (ii) For improving the quality of raw jute, better retting tank facilities are being provided in various jute growing states, to the farmers.

#### **Changing of Mines to Non-Coking Coal from Coking Coal**

2575. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines have been changed from coking coal to non-coking coal in Central Coalfields Limited during the last two years and till February, 2000, area-wise;

(b) the reasons for changing these mines from coking coal to non-coking coal; and

(c) the details of revenue earned by the Government/ company after this change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **New Act for Non-Banking Financial Companies**

2576. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a new Act on Non-Banking Financial Companies, making certain offences as cognizable under the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new act is likely to be framed and introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The content of the legislation is in the process of being finalized.

(c) The new legislation is likely to be introduced by the end of current Budget Session.

#### **Report on Currency and Finance**

2577. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE :

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether RBI in its latest report on currency and finance made important observations on serious fiscal imbalances in the economy due to mounting share of non-plan expenditure comprising interest payments defence subsidies and non-plan grant to States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken thereon along with action plan formulated for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Reserve Bank of India in its latest Report on Currency and Finance has identified major structural weakness of the Central Government finances in the composition of its expenditure, particularly with reference to the non-plan expenditure. The Report further emphasises that the non-plan expenditure of the Central Government forms almost three-fourths of the aggregate expenditure, with the revenue component constituting a significant proportion. To curb built in expenditure growth and bring about structural changes in the composition of expenditure the Union Budget for 2000-2001 has announced several initiatives. These among other include zero base budgeting, scrutiny of all ongoing schemes, reassessment of manpower requirements and limiting fresh recruitment to minimum in government departments, review of all subsidies, earmarking portion of disinvestment proceeds for retiring government debt etc. Besides, for medium term management of the fiscal deficit a committee has been set up to examine and make suitable recommendations for a strong institutional mechanism embodied in a Fiscal Responsibility Act. For expenditure management and restructuring an Expenditure Reforms Commission has also been set up.

#### Payment to be made to CISF

2578. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Coking Coal Limited, the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and the Mines and Allied Machinery Corporation owe a substantial amount to the Central Industrial security Force (CISF) on account of protection/Security it provides at their premises;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for non-payment of dues of the CISF so far; and

(d) the time by which the outstanding dues are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) The details of outstanding dues to be paid by the two subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited i.e. BCCL and ECL under the administrative control of Department of Coal and Mines and Allied Machinery Corporation (MAMC) under the administrative control of Department of Heavy

Industry to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) are as under:

Company	Amount (Provisional) (Rs. in crores)
Eastern Coalfields Limited	11.99
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	158.68
Mines and Allied Machinery Corporation	9.00

(c) and (d): Due to scarcity of funds, Bharat Coking Coal Limited and Eastern Coalfields Limited could not release the payment of dues of CISF. However, the coal companies are making sincere efforts to clear the dues of CISF. As regards MAMC, as reported by Department of Heavy Industry, the company is passing through a difficult financial phase and has been referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. The final settlement of dues by MAMC is dependent on decision of BIFR.

[Translation]

#### Export of Cars

2579. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :  
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of cars manufactured in the country has been declining;

(b) if so, the number of cars exported during each of the last three years;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned there from during the said period;

(d) whether the cars exported during the first nine months of the current financial year is less in comparison to the corresponding period of the last year; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of cars?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The exports of Passenger Cars have been 37,232 (Nos.), 29,705 (Nos.) and 25,464 (Nos.) during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively. (Source: SIAM)

(c) The exports of cars in value terms have been Rs. 673.21 crores, Rs. 532.20 Crores and Rs. 454.02

crores during the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively. (Source: DGCI&S).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is no exclusive scheme for promotion of export of cars. However, promotion of exports of this item, like other items in the Engineering Sector has been the constant endeavour of the government. Measures being Provided to boost exports, including that of cars, consist of various provisions under the Export-Import Policy including Duty Exemption Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Special Import Licence, Duty Drawback Scheme, Exemption under Section 80 HHC of Income Tax Act, Assistance from Market Development Fund etc.

[English]

#### NIE System

2580. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister for TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Apparels Export Promotion Council has requested the Government to have only two systems for allocation of quota namely, 85 percent under PPE and 15 percent under FCFS system and to abolish NIE system in the 2000;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAM) : (a) to (c) The Government had setup a Task Force to make recommendations on the long term quota (export entitlement) distribution policies for a period of five years with effect from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2004. The Task Force invited responses from Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), leading trade associations and federations on various aspects of the quota policies. Pursuant to that, Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) had also furnished its suggestion, stating, inter-alia, that only two systems of allocation of quota namely, 85 percent under PEE and 15 percent under FCFS may be retained and NIE system may be abolished in the year 2000. The Task Force also conducted two Open House Sessions to interact with various exporters and the associations concerned at New Delhi and Mumbai. The Task Force considered the inputs from a wide range of sources before submitting the report. This report was taken into account by the Government while framing the New Quota Policy.

#### Power Plant of BHEL

2581. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electrochemicals Limited (BHEL) has installed a 200 KW power plant in Hyderabad based on Phosphoric Acid Fuel Cells (PAFC) for evaluation under Indian conditions;

(b) if so, the working of the Power Plant during 1998-99, 1999-2000, till date, alongwith the details of its economic feasibility; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to use PAFC for installation of more power plants in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. BHEL have installed a 200 KW demonstration Phosphoric Acid Fuel Cell Power Plant (FCPP) procured from M/s ONSI/Toshiba Corporation, USA at their R and D centre in Hyderabad as a sponsored project of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (MNES).

(b) The installation of the project was completed by 23.06 1998. The plant was operated in Grid Connected (GC) mode as well as Grid Independent (GI) mode from 01.10.98 to 15.04.99. In GC mode the plant was operated from 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs at its rated capacity of 200 KW. In GI mode, the plant was operated from 1600 hrs. to 0800 hrs.

Because of problems faced with regard to heaters of the power plant, the plant was being operated by BHEL in warming up state with the help of indigenously developed cartridge heaters.

To reach any conclusion, it is necessary to further assess technical feasibility and economic viability of the fuel cell power plant in greater detail.

(c) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources has taken up research and development projects on various aspects of fuel cells. Small fuel cell systems have been developed and used for experimental power generation and vehicular applications.

#### More Operational Freedom to Navratnas

2582. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :  
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE :  
SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER :

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to enhance the powers of 11 Navratnas to invest in joint ventures without seeking specific investment approval;

(b) if so, whether the proposal is under consideration to allow these public undertakings to invest over 30-35% of their cash reserves in joint ventures as against the present investment limit;

(c) the extent to which these steps are likely to help these companies to grow; and

(d) the names of companies which have come

under the Navratnas and their performance during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) There is no proposal at present to enhance the powers already given in the Navratna package.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The name of Navratna Central PSUs and their performance during the last 3 years are in the enclosed Statement.

### Statement

*Profile of Navaratna Companies comparative figures for three years as on 31.3.98*

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Year PSEs	Year	Paid up Capital	Capital Employed	Turnover	Net Profit	N P/CE (%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.						
		1997-98	245	2895	6471	720	24.86
		1996-97	245	2585	5755	463	17.92
		1995-96	245	2107	4833	350	16.62
2.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.						
		1997-98	150	2554	20697	521	20.41
		1996-97	150	2718	10554	408	15.00
		1995-96	150	1815	9254	386	21.26
3.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.						
		1997-98	846	2612	5731	1020	39.07
		1996-97	846	838	4541	620	73.95
		1995-96	845	800	4408	516	64.47
4.	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.						
		1997-98	221	3032	14400	701	23.13
		1996-97	209	3966	13951	612	15.44
		1995-96	207	2505	11870	514	20.53
5.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.						
		1997-98	389	11534	59219	1707	14.79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		1996-97	389	15087	55422	1408	9.33
		1995-96	389	8967	43874	1249	13.93
6.	Indian Petro-Chemicals Corpn. Ltd.						
		1997-98	249	5801	3755	244	4.20
		1996-97	249	5543	3430	510	9.20
		1995-96	249	2959	3804	604	20.40
7.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.						
		1997-98	630	11125	4655	1130	10.16
		1996-97	600	10547	4031	933	8.84
		1995-96	600	8896	3448	730	8.20
8.	National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd.						
		1997-98	7546	24079	12429	2154	8.94
		1996-97	7404	23280	9857	1679	7.21
		1995-96	7335	20642	8387	1353	6.55
9.	Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.						
		1997-98	1426	11489	15224	2678	23.31
		1996-97	1426	13710	13235	2034	14.83
		1995-96	1426	14295	13098	1945	13.61
10.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.						
		1997-98	4130	20808	14840	133	0.64
		1996-97	4130	18826	14325	515	2.74
		1995-96	4130	13738	14954	1319	9.60
11.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.						
		1997-98	95	3574	6125	968	27.09
		1996-97	92	2622	1591	505	19.25
		1995-96	80	1172	1325	410	34.94

**Regional Imbalance in Export  
of Handicrafts**

2583. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States having major contribution

in the export of handicrafts;

(b) whether there is regional imbalance in the export of handicrafts;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to correct this imbalance; and

(e) if so, the details of measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The States of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan contribute significantly in the total export of handicrafts.

(b) and (c) The southern, Eastern and North Eastern States of the country although have skills and potential to enter into the export market, contribute insignificantly in the total export of handicrafts. The main reason can be attributed to the facts that the crafts of these regions are not designed to the contemporary taste of international buyers and also due to lack of concerted efforts on the part of exporters of these regions to adapt themselves to the changing demands of the international market.

(b) and (e) Yes, Sir. The measures being taken by the Government to correct this imbalance include: opening of regional office of Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts in Chennai, Bangalore and Calcutta; special focus on export promotion programmes; design dissemination; implementation of UNDP assisted projects in North Eastern States and Kerala for development of cane and bamboo and wood based crafts and in Kerala for development of wood based crafts; and a larger participation of exporters of these regions in the India International Handicrafts and Gifts fair.

#### Import of Newsprint

2584. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of newsprint imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the quantum of consumption of newsprint by the print media during each of the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the indigenous production of newsprint?

The MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The quantum of newsprint imported during 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (April - December, 1999) is as under:-

Qty in Tonnes			
1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Apr - Dec. 99) (Provisional)
494038	539655	426641	294072

(Source: D G C I & S, Calcutta)

(b) The import of newsprint by actual users being free since 1995, upto date consumption data is not available.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase the indigenous production of newsprint:-

- i) Newsprint industry has been delicensed subject to locational policy.
- ii) Newsprint has been exempted from excise duty.
- iii) There is no customs duty on pulp for manufacture of newsprint.
- iv) With a view to encouraging the indigenous availability of newsprint, such paper mills which are producing newsprint conforming to BIS standards are placed in schedule I to the newsprints control order, 1962 declaring them as mills manufacturing newsprint.

#### Closure of Coal Mines

2585. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU : Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have closed some coal mines in the country by declaring these sick during the last three years and current year and also proposed to declare some more mines as sick during the remaining period of the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the rationale behind this;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps for their revival; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) There



is no legal provision under which the Central Government can declare Particular coal mines as sick. Under the relevant provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, a coal mining company can be declared as a sick industrial company, only by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. Therefore, the question of the Central Government closing down any coal mine as a sick unit does not arise. Various coal companies, however, under their respective Memorandum and Articles of Association have powers to close down their coal mines on techno-economic considerations.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (a) of this question.

#### FDI to Improve Infrastructure

2586. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether thirty percent of FDI approvals were made in infrastructure; and

(b) if so, the benefits which have been yielded by FDI to improve infrastructure, especially in power sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) From January, 1991 to December, 1999, Government has approved 10,324 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) proposals amounting to Rs. 209758.10 crore. Out of this, Rs. 101600.18 crore, which constitute 48.44% of the total FDI proposals have been received in the Infrastructure Sector.

(b) Power Sector has attracted 225 FDI proposals i.e. 17.51% amounting to Rs. 36709.15 crore of the total FDI approved. No data on the benefits Yielded by FDI with specific linkage to Power Sector is maintained.

#### Production of Coffee

2587. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of coffee during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the deteriorating financial condition of coffee growers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to write off the huge interest on loan taken by coffee growers from Coffee Board?

The MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The production of Coffee during the last three years, State-wise, is as under:

(Qty in Tonnes)			
State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Karnataka	1,41,000	1,58,650	1,82,900
Kerala	47,300	50,850	61,150
Tamil Nadu	15,700	16,500	18,300
Other	1,000	2,000	2,650
Total	2,05,000	2,28,000	2,65,000

\*Other States:- Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, etc.

(b) and (c) The Indian coffee growers are getting higher domestic prices for their produce as compared to international prices.

(d) Keeping in view the non-payment of developmental loans by the coffee growers and the quantum of interest/penal interest thereon, the Government of India in 1997, permitted the Coffee Board to waive penal interest due to the Coffee Board from those growers who repay the principal loan amount with normal interest.

#### White Paper on Disinvestment

2588. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of DIS-INVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to publish a white paper on disinvestment of public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Amendment to Banking Regulation Act, 1934

2589. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

a) whether Indian Banks Association has taken up with the Reserve Bank of India the issue of speeding up the amendment to Banking Regulation Act, 1934;

(b) if so, whether according to the agreement reached IBA list of defaulters will have made public; and

(c) the time by which the legislation in this regard is likely to be introduced?

The MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Indian Bank's Association has reported that it has not taken up with the Reserve Bank of India the issue of speeding up the amendment to Banking Regulation act, 1949.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Broadcast Technology**

2590.SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to make the benefits of Broadcast Technology to reach lowest strata of the society in the remote areas of the country;

(b) the major significance of the 'BES EXPO 2000 - and International Conference and Exhibition on Terrestrial and Satellite Broadcasting' Organised by BES (India);

(c) whether there is any proposal to have digital transmission in the Metropolitan cities like Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Calcutta from this year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The Government has taken various steps to ensure that the benefits of Broadcast Technology reach the people in general and the lowest strata of the society in particular in remote places of the country by establishing Local Radio Station, Community Radio Stations and TV Transmitters of varying powers;

(b) BES EXPO - 2000 organised by Broadcast Engineering Society of India (BES), a non-governmental organisation, was to facilitate exposure to new technological developments and emerging trends in broadcasting.

(c) and (d) The schemes for setting up of digital TV Terrestrial Transmitters at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai have been approved and these are expected to be installed before the end of Ninth Plan period.

[Translation]

#### **Money Deposited in Foreign Banks**

2591.SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether approximately 300 billion dollars of Indian people are lying deposited with Foreign Banks like Swiss Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof:

(c) the number of Indians who have their accounts and deposits with these Banks and the amount to their deposits and the names of such Foreign Banks;

(d) whether 'Azadi Bachao Andolan', Swadeshi Movement" and Swadeshi Andolan and other such institutions have demanded that the money deposited with the Foreign Banks be declared national property so that these billion of dollars could be utilised for many national works to remove poverty and the nation may progress in true sense; and

(e) if so, the action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The Directorate of Enforcement has seven cases of Indian nationals, for suspected violation of FERA provisions, having deposits in Foreign Banks, namely, Credit Suisse, Midland Bank, U.K., Barclays Bank, U.K., Emirates Bank International, Dubai, LGT Bank Vaduz Uccchtenstien, Banque Bank Du Benelux Anners, Belgium, Credit Suisse, Zurich, Switzerland, Swiss Bank Corporation, Switzerland, Bank Contrade AG Zurich, Switzerland, Citi Bank Zurich. As per information available, a sum of U.S.\$ 13,62,220/-, U.K. Pound 13,595/-, Belgium Frank 19,79,403 are lying with these Banks. In addition, the Directorate of enforcement also has cases of three Indian nationals, in respect of whom an amount of U.S.\$ 1,43,34,613/- has been found in foreign banks, viz. Barclays Bank, Sutton U.K., Wells Fargo Bank, USA and DIME Savings Bank USA.

(d) A suggestion has been received recently from an Hon'ble Member of Parliament that legislation should be enacted to declare the money generated by dubious means and deposited in Swiss Banks by Indians, as national property, which could be put into welfare activities.

(c) The Prevention of Money Laundering Bills, 1999, which is at present pending in the Rajya Sabha, contains provisions for attachment and confiscation of property representing proceeds of crime, held abroad.

[English]

#### **Disinvestment of Hindustan Latex Limited**

2592. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to disinvest Hindustan Latex Limited;

(b) if so, the percentage of disinvestment; and

(c) its impact on family planning programme of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Government has decided to disinvest 49% equity in Hindustan Latex Limited. This disinvestment would have no impact on family planning programme of the country.

[Translation]

#### **New Delhi T.V. Network**

2593. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against special consideration being shown by Doordarshan towards New Delhi Television Network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the guilty officials in this matter;

(d) the total number of cases investigated during the last three years by the C.B.I. against the Doordarshan officials, year-wise and the result thereof; and

(e) the current status of these investigations and the total number of cases disposed of during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The Public Accounts

Committee (PAC) in its report presented to the Lok Sabha on 22.04.1997 had inter-alia observed that large scale irregularities were committed and undue favours were granted by Doordarshan to M/s New Delhi Television (NDTV) in the matter of programmes produced by M/s NDTV for Doordarshan. The Committee had directed that the matter may be investigated by an appropriate Investigative agency. Accordingly, the matter was entrusted to CBI for investigation. A regular criminal case has been registered by the CBI against the accused persons on 9.1.1998. The matter is still under investigation of CBI and their report is awaited. Further action in the matter will be taken on receipt of the report of CBI.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Disinvestment of IPCL**

2594. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to disinvest the shares of IPCL; and

(b) if so, the reasons of disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed disinvestment in IPCL is in line with the declared Government policy to bring down its holding in the generality of PSUs in the non-strategic category and to maintain majority holding in cases of PSUs involving strategic considerations.

#### **Price of Cotton**

2595. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that large scale of cotton has been imported recently at a 20 percent price lower than the domestic market price;

(b) if so, whether influx of imported cotton has affected the domestic market and also cotton growers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of domestic market/cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) According to figures available with the Government, during April-December, 1999, import of cotton (including cotton waste) is 1,46,000 tons against 44,000 tons during April to December, 1998. This indicates that import has increased. Domestic prices of cotton vis-a-vis international Prices are one of the important parameters for import of cotton.

(b) and (c) Though, availability of cotton in the domestic market is adequate, imports of cotton with certain quality specifications take place on need basis, which forms an estimated 4% of cotton consumption in a year in the country. However, still to protect the interest of cotton growers, the Government has put in operation the Minimum Support Price (MSP) as a Price stabilising factor, thereby ensuring remunerative returns to the cotton growers.

#### Disinvestment of Hindustan Insecticides Limited

2596.SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :  
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to privatise the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd. by a global bidding along with other Public Sector Units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its likely impact on the country's health and agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The Disinvestment Commission has recommended that the Government should offer a minimum of 51% of the equity of Hindustan Insecticides Limited to a strategic buyer alongwith management control in order to enable it to diversify its product range with new technology and additional investment. No decision regarding disinvestment in Hindustan Insecticides Limited has been taken by the Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Export of Knitwear Garments

2597.SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that exporters of knitwear garments are upset by procedural wrangles and plethora of rules which cause delay in delivery schedule and lead to price escalation;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that while the exporters are equipping themselves to face the stiff international competition, these factors act as stimulating blocks; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Government has already been taking various measures, from time to time, to reduce the transaction costs and time in exports and to increase the competitiveness of textile products including knitwear garments. These include extension of zero duty EPCG scheme to textile sector, import of additional items of trimmings and embellishments on duty-free and licence - free basis, rationalisation of EOU/EPZ scheme, recognition for export of services, electronic filing of Advance Licensing Scheme, relaxation of restrictions on units working in export processing zones etc. Besides, the Government have set up a high powered Export Promotion Board (EPB) with the basic objective of co-ordinating efforts of all concerned Ministries so as to create a more favourable environment for maximising export earnings. A high level committee, set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Textiles), also meets periodically to redress the grievances of exporters.

#### Sick Textile Units

2598.SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain non-resident Indian or some times of NRIs have shown their interest in acquiring and reviving sick textile units in India in pursuance of Government's policy to attract NRI investment in such sectors;

(b) if so, the details of the sick textile units which have been acquired by NRI firms so far during the last three years, state-wise particularly in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the details of such proposals under negotiation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

### Fraud in Punjab National Bank

2599. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT :

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission had submitted an adverse report against some top officers of the Punjab National Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government against them;

(d) whether CBI has completed its investigation in respect of fraud in Punjab National Bank;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (f) The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) which was consulted in the matter of accountability of Shri Rashid Jilani, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), Punjab National Bank (PNB) and the then Managing Director (MD), PNB Caps. in certain allegedly irregular securities transactions during the period April 1991 to May 1992, advised that Government may consider termination of appointment of the board level executives of the bank including Shri Rashid Jilani besides referring the case to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for investigation. The matter was considered in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and it was decided to refer the matter to CBI for investigation. The CBI has since registered a Preliminary Enquiry in the matter.

The CBI had also registered a Regular Case against CMD, PNB, the Ex. MD of PNB Caps. and others in the matter relating to irregularities in sanction of short term deposit/bridge loan to two companies by PNB Caps. aggregating Rs. 13 crores which was later written off. PNB has reported that PNB Caps. has filed winding up petitions against Willard India Ltd. and Solareon Industries Ltd. and that a sum of Rs. 2.10 crores has already been realized.

It has been decided not to reappoint Shri Rashid Jilani, CMD, PNB beyond his present term which has expired on 06.03.2000.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2. P.M.

11.07.hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the clock.*

14.00 hours

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU in the Chair]

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Governor of Bihar has not come back yet and horse-trading is going on there. . . (Interruptions)  
50 Lakh rupees. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir. Please give me an Opportunity to speak for a minute.. . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dasmunsi, please cooperate with the Chair.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, he is an affected Member. Please allow him to make his submissions. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat) : Sir, his son is being threatened. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait. Let the Papers be laid on the Table of the House.

14.01.hrs.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABH BHAI KATHIRIA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Manohar

Joshi, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Enterprises Survey (Volumes I to III) for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1444/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1445/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Dilip Ray, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1446/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1447/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Employees) Pension (Amendment) Rules, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 804 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1999 under sub-section (3) of Section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1448/2000]

- (2) A copy of the General Insurance (Employees) Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1221 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1999 under sub-section (5) of Section 17-A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) act, 1972.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1449/2000]

- (3) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Recruitment of Apprentice Development Officers) (Amendment) Regulations, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) Published in Notification No. S.O. 129 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2000 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Life Insurance Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1450/2000]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-

- (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Credit Rating Agencies) Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. S.O. 547 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 1999.
- (ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Venture Capital Funds) (Amendments) Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. S.O. 1118 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1999.
- (iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Merchant Bankers) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. S.O. 1119 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1999.
- (iv) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Registrar to an Issue and Share Transfer Agents) (Second Amendment)

Regulations, 1999, published in Notification No. S.O. 1120 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1999.

- (v) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 1999 Published in Notification No. S.O. 1223 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1999.

- (vi) The Securities Appellate Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 142 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1451/2000]

- (5) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-

- (i) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Scheme, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 58 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2000.

- (ii) The Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) (Amendment) Scheme, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 59 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2000.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1452/2000]

- (6) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 48 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 2000 notifying the reduced rate of interest in respect of Public Provident Fund Scheme issued under section 12 of the Public Provident Fund Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1453/2000]

- (7) A copy of the Post Office Savings Account (Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 165 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2000 under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Government Savings Banks Act, 1873.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1454/2000]

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Consolidated Report\* on the working of Public Sector Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 1999.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1455/2000]

- (9) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Housing Bank for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 40 of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1456/2000]

- (10) A copy each of the Notifications from G.S.R. No. 168 (E) to G.S.R. 169 (E), G.S.R. 171(E), G.S.R. 172 (E), G.S.R. 174 (E) and G.S.R. 176 (E) to G.S.R. 183 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2000 together with explanatory memorandum regarding Customs duty changes and exemption in the context of Budget proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 29th February, 2000 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1457/2000]

- (11) A copy each of the Notifications No. G.S.R. 170 (E) G.S.R. 173 (E) and G.S.R. 175 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2000, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding changes in Customs Tariff and exemption in the context of Budget Proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on 29th February, 2000 under sub-section (7) of Section 9 A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1458/2000]

- (12) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of Central Excise Act, 1944:-

- (i) G.S.R. 184 (E) to G.S.R. 209 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding Central Excise Duty changes and exemption in context of

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\*The Consolidated Report on the working of the Public Sector Banks for the year ended the 31st March, 1999 was laid on the Table of the House on the 25th February, 2000.

the Budget Proposals pertaining to Indirect Taxes announced by Finance Minister in Lok Sabha on the 29th February, 2000.

- (ii) The Central Excise (First Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 156 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2000, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1459/2000]

- (13) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 210 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum, regarding exemption to taxable services provided to any person, by a mechanised slaughter house in relation to the slaughtering of bovine animals, from the whole of service tax leviable thereon under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1460/2000]

- (14) A copy of the Depositories (Appeal to Securities Appellate Tribunal) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English version) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 143 (E) in Gazette of India dated The 18th February, 2000 under section 27 of the Depositoris Act, 1996.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1461/2000]

- (15) A copy of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) (Appeal to Securities Appellate Tribunal) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 144 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 2000 under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1462/2000]

- (16) A copy of the Coinage Standard Weight and Remedy of Commemorative Coins of the One Hundred Rupees (Containing Silver 50 per cent, Copper 40 per cent, Nickel 5 per cent, Zinc 5 per cent) and One Rupee circular coins (Containing Iron 83 per cent and Chromium 17 per cent) coined in the memory of "Saint Dnyaneshwar" Rules, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 453 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June,

1999 under sub-section (3) of Section 21 of the Coinage Act, 1906.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1463/2000]

- (17) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi, for the Year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development New Delhi for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1464/2000]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Forum of Financial Writers and Institute of Economic Journalism, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Forum of Financial Writers and Institute of Economic Journalism, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1465/2000]

- (19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1466/2000]

- (20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Applied



Economic Research, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1467/2000]

- (21) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1468/2000]

- (22) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Parliament, Secretariats of the President and Vice-President for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1469/2000]

- (23) A copy of the Corrigendum to Budget Documents, 2000-01 (Hindi and English versions).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1470/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1471/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of sections 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1472/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Quality Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Quality Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1473/2000]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 72 (E) (Hindi and English versions) Published in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 2000 notifying the South India Paper Mills Limited, Mysore, as a mill producing Newsprint, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1474/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Gingee N. Ramachandran, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act. 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1475/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion

Council, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Powerloom Development and Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for the year 1997-98.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1476/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1477/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English) versions of the Ministry of Mines and Minerals for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT - 1478/2000]

14.04 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

[English]

##### First Report

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their second Report (Twelfth Lok Sabha) on "Follow-up action on the Reports of C and AG of India (Commercial)".

14.04½ hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[Translation]

##### First report

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda) Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House.

14.04½ hrs.

[Translation]

#### COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

##### First, Second and Third Action Taken Reports

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal) : Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals:-

- (1) First Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Tenth Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-1999-2000 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- (2) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Eleventh Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-1999-2000 relating to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Deptt. of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals.
- (3) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants-1999-2000 relating to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, Deptt. of Fertilisers.

14.05 hrs.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, 13th March, 2000 will consist of:-

1. Discussion on Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Ordinance, 2000 and consideration and passing of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions (Amendment) Bill, 2000.
2. Discussion on Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 2000 and consideration and passing of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2000.
3. General discussion on Railway Budget for 2000-2001.
4. Discussion and voting on:-
  - (a) Demands for Grants (Vote on Account) (Railways) for 2000-2001.
  - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1999-2000.
5. General discussion on General Budget for 2000-2001.
6. Discussion and voting on:-
  - (a) Demands for Grants (Vote on Account) (General) for 2000-2001.
  - (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1999-2000.
7. Discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's Address.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Item No. 15, Shri Kirit Somaiya.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, what about submissions?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, just wait for some time. I will come to submissions.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the normal practice is that the item . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I will come to submissions.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman Sir, the rule is always that in the House, before the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs makes a report of the business of the next week, the other items of business which are listed before it, are taken up. Shri Kirit Somaiya's name is there at item No. 15. If you start submissions now, then how can the item of Shri Kirit Somaiya, which is very much there before his name, come up after that because submissions always start immediately after the next week's business? If you just make an exemption taking the sense of the House, then only Shri Kirit Somaiya can come back and put his motion. It is a very important thing. Otherwise, how will he move it? The order of agenda will be totally disturbed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the motion; that is the presentation of a petition.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The item pertaining to presentation of petition by Shri Kirit Somaiya is placed long before the item pertaining to the Statement by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I think, you overlooked that. That can be taken up only after the submissions. .  
*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : That can be taken up only after the submissions. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, if it is the sense of the House, after the submissions.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman Sir, what happened to the Discussion under Rule 193 . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, his petition is very important.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request.. . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, before you allow Members to make submissions on the issue of next week's business, please listen to Shri Rajo Singh and other leaders from Bihar. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item number 15, Shri Kirit Somaiya.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will take up submissions after this.

(Interruptions)

14.09 hrs.

#### PRESENTATION OF PETITION

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North-East) : Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Shailesh Ghedia, General Secretary, Investor Grievances Forum and Shri Bharat Kotecha, Joint-Secretary, Investor Grievances Forum, Mumbai, requesting to take action to protect the interest of the small investors.

14.09½ hrs.

#### BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

##### Fifth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have allowed me to complete everything. There are only a few submissions. After the submissions, I will call you. I am going as per the schedule.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Chairman Sir, You gave me the permission to speak, but I was not let to speak.. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi-Sadar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am requesting you for so long to give me an opportunity to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

14.10 hrs.

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE-contd.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Decision of the ICHR to suspend two volumes of "Towards Freedom" written by Prof. Sumit Sarkar and Shri K.M. Panikkar.
2. Dropping of large number of lethal weapons near the International Headquarters of Anand Marg in the district of Purulia in December, 1995 and the report of CBI in regard to involvement of Anand Marg and to declare Anand Margie outfit as an illegal organisation. United Nations should be requested to withdraw recognition of this organisation as a voluntary organisation. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are so many submissions, and I will call the names of the Members one by one.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the absence of rainfall for the last one or two years which lead to famine and drought, rural areas of Ajmer district are facing acute problem of drinking water. Handpumps, wells and bavaries have been dried up. People have to go miles to fetch the drinking water. At some places, people are compelled to drink the flouride contaminated saline water. I request the Government of India to formulate and implement an emergency plan

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

without delay to meet the crisis of drinking water in rural areas and water should be made available there through Beesalpur water project.

Ajmer is situated in the centre of Rajasthan. It gives the message of communal harmony and national integrity to the entire country. However, it is a matter of sorry that only the relay Kendras of Akashvani and Doordarshan have been set up in this city which is very important from historical and cultural point of view.

I request the Government of India to upgrade the Akashvani and Doordarshan Kendras of Ajmer and accord them the status of programme Production Centre and required resources should be made available for it without any delay.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are only three or four more submissions. After completion of these submissions. I will call you.

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad, Maharashtra): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Discussion on the growing naxalite problem in the country.
2. Need to bring a Central Legislation to ban cow slaughter in the country.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. The discrimination shown to minorities by authorities in some parts of the country by forcing the details of members who have joined their community to the police officials and also the requirement to approach police first before joining such community.
2. Breaking of statues of Sreenarayana Guru by some people to defame a community whose leadership is not liked by a political party.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, whether we will not get justice. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Government statement in response to the increasing public discontent and protest against the U.P. Regulation of Public Religious Buildings and Places Bill, 2000 and the legitimate demand that the Government need to advise the President to withhold assent to the Bill.

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : Following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. High volatility in the capital market, share bazar, unscrupulous promoters-operators have started manipulation of hundreds of "dull-dead" scripts. Need to discuss the flow of fund, manipulation tactics of protective measures for small investors.
2. Deficit financing by various States, more and more debt leads the States to "Debt Trap". Need to discuss present debt and interest liability of the States.

DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN (Tiruchendur): Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the List of Business for the next week during the submission by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to be made on 10th March, 2000;

1. Need to convert railway line between Tirunelveli and Tiruchendur into Broad Gauge line; and
2. Need to allocate adequate funds for drinking water project in Tiruchendur Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu in view of acute scarcity there.

*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, There are 6 Union Ministers are in Bihar. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj) : Sir, I rise on a point of order. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is this? They are not allowing to run the business of the House to since 23rd of the last month. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Khurana, I will allow you.

Shri Dasmunsi, what is your point of order?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First I would allow the point of order. Shri Dasmunshi wants to raise a point of order.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, we are demanding justice. We are not getting it. Sir, first I should be given an opportunity to take part in the discussion. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would raise my point of order a little later. Let Shri Mulayam Singh: speak first. . . . (Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN: Under which rule do you want to raise the point of order ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I want to raise the point of order under rule 184 . . . (Interruptions) Sir, under rule 184, a motion was admitted in the House . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, we do not know whether that motion has been disposed of or not and whether that motion would now be taken up under rule 193. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is no point of order.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hoogly) : Sir, you have given chance to Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to speak . . . (Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN : Please, one minute.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Sir, I only want justice . . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): We want to know why they are not allowing to run the Business of the House and whether they will continue to speak and we will not be given the chance to speak. . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Dasmunshi is raising a point of order. Then I will come to you.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, 6 Union Ministers are present in Bihar. Horse trading is going on there. Criminal activities are on the increase. Union Government is using its power there. Union Government is have gone there . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN: Shri Raghuvans Prasad one minute please. Shri Dasmunsi, you wanted to say something.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I am not saying anything now. . . . (Interruptions) I would make my submission later on. You may first hear what Shri Mulayam Singh ji is saying . . . (Interruptions) I will make my submission later on . . . (Interruptions)-

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dasmunsi, I have called your name. If you want to submit something, do it now.

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the last 10 days Khurana ji is requesting to be allowed to speak, but they are not letting him to speak.

14.20 hrs.

At this stage Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and some other hon. Members came and stand on the floor near the table.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN : This is not proper. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you come to the well of the House, can the other Members also not come to the well? Whatever you want to speak, speak from your seats. This is not proper.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. The hon. Members who are standing in the well of the House will go back. I will listen to you. Please go back to your seats.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : What is this . . . .  
*(Interruptions)* First you please ask them to sit down . . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

14.22 hrs.

*At this stage Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.*

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given chance to Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi. He wants to make a submission. Please cooperate with the Chair.

*(Interruptions)*

14.23 hrs.

*At this stage Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and some other hon'ble Members came and stand on the floor near the table.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are coming to the well of the House again and again. This is not proper. Other Members are not coming to the Well. Why are you coming to the Well again and again? If you want to say something, speak from your seats.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North-East): Mr Chairman, Sir, they did not let the Question Hour to go. . . . *(Interruptions)* No discussion could take place. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

14.25 hrs.

*At this stage Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and some other Members went back to their seats.*

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute, please. Hon Members, I am requesting you that whatever you want to submit, you may do so from your seats. Why are you unnecessarily coming to the well every time? It is not fair.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : They are not allowing us to speak on President Address *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I want to Speak on President's Address since 24th but they are allowing me to speak. . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL (Kanpur) : They do not want the House to continue where they could be exposed.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, please take your seat. I have asked Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi to make his submission. Let him submit his point.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, What is your submission?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : They should reply as to why they did not allow the Question Hour to run. . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana, I will also allow you to make your submission. Please take your seat. Let us hear Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Since 24th I am trying to get the opportunity to speak on President's Address . . . *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Madan Lal Khurana , kindly cooperate with the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, they should give an assurance that they will hear me after this . . . (Interruptions) . . . First, they should assure that they will not disturb me when I speak.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) :

Yeh to hain Madan Lal Khurana  
Delhi ka bahut bara hai Purana  
Jisney Kabhi Nahi bhara hai jurmana.

But you people have paid the Penalty . . .  
(Interruptions).

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Shri Mulayam Singh should assure that he will let me speak after him . . .  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him speak. Then, I will give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : I am not talking any controversial issue. Hon'ble leader of the country Shri Mulayam Singh has moved a motion on this issue . . .  
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: No, no. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: How can you dictate me no, no'? . . . (Interruptions). . . Sir, how can they dictate me? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Madan Lal Khurana, I have allowed Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi to make his submission. Please allow him to speak.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission is that I have given a notice to the hon. Speaker that first he should dispose of matter of Rule 184, and then he should consider the matter under Rule 193 re: activities of Bajrang Dal, VHP and RSS — notice of which was given by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, myself and others — in an appropriate date for discussion. . . .  
(Interruptions) I do not know why they are so upset. . .  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please cooperate with the Chair.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has raised one point under Rule 184.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wait. I will give my ruling.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You are asking me to sit down. I am sitting since long. You could not make Khurana ji to sit down. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : You should respect hon'ble Chairman. Will you not even respect the hon'ble Chairman . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, please sit down. I will call you later.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Khurana, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

14.30 hrs.

#### OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

**Re: Short Duration Discussion on Issue relating to Gujarat Government's order lifting the ban on its Employees joining the RSS**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members may recall that a Short Duration Discussion under rule 193 on the issue relating to Gujarat Government's order lifting the ban on its employees to join the RSS was included in the List of Business on the 28th February, 2000. Shri Kirit Somaiya who initiated the discussion on the subject was unable to complete his speech due to disturbances which ultimately led to the adjournment of the House.

(Interruptions)



MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jaipal Reddy, do not disturb at this juncture.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): We will not allow you to do what you feel like doing in the House.

*[English]*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): You are not even ready to hear him . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen carefully first.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House had to be adjourned.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: You have to request the hon. Chairman. You are not requesting him. . . . *(Interruptions)* .  
You have no respect for the Chair. . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Reddy, please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House had to be adjourned on subsequent days also due to disturbances since the opposition parties were not prepared for a discussion under rule 193 on the subject and were demanding a discussion on a motion under rule 184 given notice of by Shri Madhavrao Scindia and others.

On the 8th March, 2000, the hon. Prime Minister stated in the House that the Government was prepared for a discussion under rule 184 on the subject.

In the meantime, however, the Gujarat Government withdrew the said order.

*(Interruptions)*

MR CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please sit down. Why are you disturbing unnecessarily?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No cross talk please.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.R. Dasmunsi has now addressed a communication to the hon. Speaker for ascertaining the fate of the notices given under rule 184 on the subject and also of the part-discussed Short Duration Discussion.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the withdrawal of the order by the Gujarat Government, a discussion under rule 184 on the notices in the form given has become infructuous. On the same grounds, the inconclusive Short Duration Discussion has also become infructuous and no useful purpose is going to be served by discussing this matter any further.

*(Interruptions)*

14.32 hrs.

*(At this stage, Prof. S.P. Singh Bhagel and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow me to complete.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dasmunsi has now given a notice on the 9th March, 2000 under rule 193 on the activities of the RSS, the VHP, the Bajrang Dal and the functioning of the ICHR. A notice on the functioning of the ICHR was earlier received also from Shri Ajoy Chakraborty. These notices are under the consideration of the hon. Speaker.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the House to continue.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already said that all these notices are under the consideration of the hon. Speaker. So, please allow the House to continue.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please go back to your seat and speak from there.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: First, go to your seat. Then, I will give you a chance.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not hear you from here. You go back to your seat first.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, go back to your seats. I will give a chance.

(Interruptions)

14.34 hrs.

*(At this stage, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I abide by the ruling given by you regarding rule 193. You please ask them to respect it. It is not right on their part to speak against your ruling . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, what I said was that the notices, including the notice under rule 193 are under the consideration of the hon. Speaker. So, let the House be allowed to continue.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You are compelling us to sit . . . (Interruptions) You cannot do so. They have ruined the whole country . . . (Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow any further discussion on the subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI RUCHAND PAL: Sir, I am on a point of order. . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is your point of order?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If everybody speaks like this, how can I hear you?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you standing unnecessarily? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If everybody stands and speaks like this, how is it possible for me to call any hon. Member to speak? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 13th March 2000 at 11 a.m.

14.37 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 13,2000/ Phalgun 23, 1921 (Saka).*

**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates  
(English Version)**

**Friday, March 10, 2000/Phalguna 20, 1921 (Saka)**

...

<b>Col./line</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Read</b>
15 & 16/19	8	6
15 & 16/2 (from below)	4929.51	4929.57
19&20/13 (Col.13)	651.59	651.69
19&20/17 (Col.11)	1195.2	1195.24
19&20/20 (Col.8)	264.5	264.50
50/21	(b) to (c) and (e)	(b), (c) and (e)
123/11 (from below)	218	248
139&140/14 (Col.7)	334.18	334.16
153/1	(a) and (f)	(e) and (f)
197/2	(a) to (b)	(a) and (b)
207/32	(+)74.40	(+) 74.82
253/10	(e)	(c)
258/1	(a) and (d)	(c) and (d)
273/19	(b) and (e)	(d) and (e)